

THE JOURNAL

Friday, August 9, 2002

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Inside Help needy kids by donating backpacks, school supplies [A8]

Arts Woody Allen makes "Death" a laughing matter [C3]

El Cerrito evaluates parks

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — The city is evaluating every shrub, tree and public area it has to determine how best to pay for maintenance and upkeep of its parks and landscaping.

The inventory will result in a landscape management plan mandated by the federal government and is just the beginning of an effort to inventory El Cerrito's entire infrastructure, according to city maintenance manager Bruce King.

King added it would be a lot of work but also an "excellent way to see what money we have on hand and what to budget for infrastructure improvements."

A few months ago, the city hired Vallier Design Associates, a Richmond landscape architecture firm, to note what kind of landscaping and parks the city wanted to prioritize its maintenance.

Marcia Vallier, the firm's principal, said it is important to physically go to the parks to see what there, but it was equally important to find out what kind of landscaping people want to see.

The city will mail surveys to residents as part of the landscaping inventory to learn how people use parks, if they're satisfied with the maintenance of parks and what kind of improvements they'd like to see.

King said current park maintenance is basic — essentially mowing and trash collection — and based on what city officials believe is necessary. He said the city may find it needs to increase maintenance costs when residents weigh in on the matter.

"I think the survey will give us information for what people want to see in the parks," said King. "If we have this information from the survey, it will give us an idea of what direction to



JACKSON JOYCE, 7, came all the way from Louisiana and ended up Tuesday at the pride of East Bay bowling, the Albany Bowl.

STEVE MASLANKA/STAFF

Just don't call it an 'alley'

■ A sprightly 53 years old, the Albany Bowl is a modern, high-tech 'bowling center'

By Martin Snapp
CORRESPONDENT

ALBANY — Strobe lights! Fog machines! Music videos! Orange, yellow, green and purple bowling balls that glow in the dark! Even the bowling shoes glow!

This is not your father's bowling alley.

In fact, they don't even call it a bowling alley anymore. The preferred term is "bowling center." But in all the important

ways, the Albany Bowl is still the same place it's been for 53 years. It's the last of its kind: a real, honest-to-goodness, old-time bowling alley — oops, center.

If you want to find another lane to bowl a few frames, you'll have to go all the way to Pinole or Alameda. And those centers are owned by huge corporate conglomerates; the Albany Bowl is still a mom-and-pop operation.

"The only reason we're still able to be here is that we own the dirt," says owner John Tierney. "There's no landlord to evict us for a higher-paying tenant."

A multigenerational cross-section passes through during the course of the day. In the morning, it's the retirees. Even as early as

9 a.m., the place is packed with 70-, 80- and 90-year-olds bowling in the Prime Time League.

Among them: 85-year-old Chick Ligon of El Cerrito and his wife, Kay. (He bowls a 123 average; she bowls a 134.) Chick has been bowling for only the last four years; he took up the sport when he married Kay, a lifetime devotee.

"We've known each other since we were kids," he says. "I first asked her to marry me in 1937, but it took me until 1998 to get her to say yes."

In the afternoon, the oldsters give way to the youngsters, especially the high school students who flock to the "Rock'n'Bowl" every Friday afternoon.

In the evening, it's time for the

college students and the young adults who like to unwind after work by knocking down a few pins.

High-tech help

And they get what they want. The Albany Bowl may look like an old-time '50s bowling alley, but a lot of high-tech measures have been installed to, as Tierney puts it, "enhance scoring."

"People don't practice three times a week anymore," he says sadly. "Nowadays, they demand instant success."

And he does his best to make sure they get it. The pins are specially balanced to fall as easily as possible.

See BOWLING, Page A6

Albany sues over building repairs

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — The city has filed a lawsuit against three parties that had a part in designing and constructing the city's community center, in an effort to recoup repair costs for the building that could reach \$800,000.

In April, large chunks of stucco fell off an exterior wall of the tower of the Albany Community Center building, at 1249 Marin Ave.

The city has since spent about \$100,000 to find out the extent of the damage and estimates it will cost another \$700,000 to make repairs to the entire building.

"In the course of taking a look at why (the stucco) fell down, we found that behind the stucco siding itself, that there was dry rot and moisture in the wood underneath the stucco," said City Administrator Beth Pollard.

The city has filed a lawsuit in Alameda Superior Court against architect Hal Brandes, architect firm Marquis Associates and construction company Dickman-Norse Inc. to recoup the costs of building repairs as well as staff time. A judge will try to settle the matter out of court before it goes to trial. Pollard said the process could last two years.

"It's an extremely unfortunate set of circumstances that a 9-year-old building would have this much damage to it," Pollard said. "It's obviously very disconcerting and that's why the city has initiated litigation to the parties involved in the construction of the building to seek recovery of our costs."

The building was completed at a cost of about \$5.5 million in 1993, and houses the city's recreation department, the city's community center and the Albany

See ALBANY, Page A7



JOANNA JHANDA/STAFF

Ernie LAGESON, a former attorney, has just published his second book on an Alcatraz escape attempt and subsequent trial.

Kensington writer looks at justice Alcatraz-style

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

KENSINGTON — In November 1946, three prisoners went on trial in San Francisco for a prison guard during a failed escape at Alcatraz.

Only one of the prisoners shot the guard, but all three went on trial for conspiracy.

Two of the prisoners, including a mentally disabled man who was also a paranoid schizophrenic, were sentenced to death and executed. The other, a young African American who appeared

to have saved the lives of those the inmates took hostage, was sentenced to life in prison.

"Everyone who conspired to escape was just as guilty as the guy who did the shooting," said Ernie Lageson, explaining the reasoning of the court. Lageson is a retired trial lawyer whose second book, "Alcatraz Justice: The Rock's Most Famous Murder Trial" (Creative Arts Book Co., \$15.95), released in May, chronicles the drama of that trial.

See ALCATRAZ, Page A7

Berkeley nurses breast-feeding record

By Greg Cannon
STAFF WRITER

BERKELEY — More than 1,100 babies just trying to get a meal out of their moms set a world record Saturday as Berkeley easily claimed the title from Australia for the number of women breast-feeding together in one place.

Organizers will submit to the Guinness Book of Records a list of names, video and other proof that 1,134 mothers were simultaneously breast-feeding a like number of babies in the Berkeley Community Theater, besting the Australian record of 767 mother-baby couplings set just last week.

There was another attempt later in the week in Orange County.

The event, part of World Breast-feeding Week, drew moms and their babies from around the Bay Area.

The event was held to draw attention to the benefits of breast-feeding to mothers and children.

"I think it's great that it's getting so much attention," said Jessica Natkin, 31, of Oakland who was waiting for some friends with 9-month-old Roger.

Like politically-correct coffee proposals and other quirky things

See SOLANO, Page A7



A grand night out, with stories

BLOCK PARTIES, barbecues, porch lights, children's ID programs — and, here, tall tales told by Kirk Waller at El Cerrito Royale, part of a grand block party on Gladys Avenue — were all part of National Night Out Against Crime in West County. The nationwide event was held Tuesday to help neighbors get to know each other and band together to prevent crime. The National Association of Town Watch, a Pennsylvania-based group created the annual event in 1984. El Cerrito residents had more than 20 block parties to choose from.

GREGORY URQUIAGA/TIMES

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Community folk

■ Her dream is to volunteer in Peru. Page A5

Schools

■ Leadership is about sharing, not giving orders. Page A5



Martin Snapp

■ Respected Catholic bishop not ready to retire. Page A3

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KNIGHT RIDDER

INFORMATION FOR LIFE

NEWS BRIEFS

El Cerrito

Abelson will run for re-election

Mayor Janet Abelson is running for re-election to the El Cerrito City Council on Nov. 5.

Abelson was a member of the city's planning commission for two years before she was elected to the council in late 1999.

She represents West County on the Contra Costa County Transportation Authority and chairs the West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission Advisory Council and the AC Transit Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Abelson and her husband Howard, a former El Cerrito mayor, have owned a home in El Cerrito since 1973. Active in the PTA, Abelson is currently the Legislative Chair of the PTA Bay-side Council serving West County Schools.

Abelson's seat on the council, as well as Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Perka's seat, will be open this coming election.

Bay Area

AC Transit offers \$15 youth pass

Beginning Aug. 1, \$15 will buy 31 days of unlimited local bus rides for youth ages 5 to 17, anywhere on the 150-route network. The 31-day passes are on sale at more than 100 retail outlets throughout the East Bay, including most Albertsons, Safeway and Longs Drugs stores. To locate a nearby pass-ticket vendor, check online at www.actransit.org.

The new annual Youth Pass, priced at \$150, is sold only through AC Transit's Customer Services office at 1600 Franklin Street in downtown Oakland.

For further information, call 510-891-4706 or see www.actransit.org. Proceeds from sales of the \$15 and \$150 youth passes will help underwrite a free bus-pass program to be launched in late August when school starts.

Oakland

A's ready to go to bat for breast cancer

The Oakland A's are now selling tickets for the game against the Seattle Mariners on Sept. 15, which has been designated the Fourth Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Day.

Fans may purchase a \$25 package that includes a commemorative T-shirt and pin, as well as an upper reserve seat ticket. Fans can also buy two tickets for \$30 and receive a T-shirt and pin.

Half the proceeds from field, plaza and upper reserve tickets sold that day will benefit the American Cancer Society when patrons mention the Breast Cancer Awareness Day.

Pre-game ceremonies include a gathering of some 400 breast cancer survivors, who will form

a human pink ribbon on the field. Tickets can be purchased at the coliseum, online at www.oaklandathletics.com or www.tickets.com, or by calling 510-762-BALL.

Bay Area

Revitalization is topic of September seminar

A seminar on how to get funding for community revitalization will be held in September, offered by the California Debt and Investment Advisory Commission.

"Tools to Revitalize California Communities" will be Sept. 25, held in conjunction with the International Economic Development Council Conference at the Oakland Marriott Convention Center.

Presentations will be made on more than 20 programs and techniques that promote redevelopment and economic growth in California communities.

Information will be given on loans, grants and other funds available for use on projects such as affordable housing, health facilities, pollution control, community planning and small business development.

Representative of state agencies, local governments and private and nonprofit investors will speak.

The seminar is part of the "Double Bottom Line" investment initiative of California State Treasurer Phil Angelides, chairman of the advisory commission.

For more information, visit www.treasurer.ca.gov, or call 916-653-3269.

Bay Area

Grant funds available for tree-planting

California ReLeaf, the urban forestry division of the Trust for Public Land, has \$100,000 in grant funds available to community-based groups throughout California for tree planting projects on public lands.

The funds are made available by the state Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, administered through the California ReLeaf 2003 Tree Planting Grant Program.

Individual funding requests can range from \$500 to \$5,000.

Representatives of incorporated nonprofit organizations, unincorporated community groups or city-affiliated volunteer groups, such as tree advisory boards or beautification committees may apply.

Applicants who are not with an incorporated nonprofit organization require a fiscal sponsor to carry out a grant-funded project.

The deadline to submit a proposal is Sept. 20. Recipients will be announced Nov. 14.

Proposed planting projects must be completed by Dec. 15, 2003.

Grant guidelines and application forms are available at www.tpl.org/releaf, or call 916-557-1673, ext. 12, or 949-642-0127.

— Staff and wire reports

EL CERRITO POLICE

Friday, July 26

■ **THEFT** — A generator and two ladders were removed from an unsecured area at El Cerrito Plaza sometime between July 26 and July 29.

Saturday, July 27

■ **THEFT** — A home on the 8700 block of Terrace Drive was burglarized for the second time in a month at 11:20 p.m. The burglar took property and fled.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A 1999 Honda Prelude was stolen from the 500 block of Lexington Avenue sometime between 7:30 and 10:30 p.m.

Sunday, July 28

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A 1984 Chevy pickup truck was stolen from the 400 block of Richmond Street sometime between 8 p.m. on July 28 and 1:30 a.m. the next day. The California Highway Patrol arrested two people in the vehicle in Oakland before it was reported stolen.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A 1990 Nissan 240sx was stolen from the 100 block of Seaview Drive sometime between

10:30 p.m. on July 28 and 9 a.m. the next day.

■ **THEFT THWARTED** — A burglar attempting to break into a home on the 8800 block of Terrace Drive fled when seen by a resident at 11:15 p.m.

■ **THEFT** — Property was removed from a vehicle on the 7500 block of Schmidt Lane sometime between 3:15 and 3:30 p.m. The vehicle's window was also smashed.

Monday, July 29

■ **THEFT** — Two people were seen removing property from a vehicle on the 1600 block of Kearney Street at 10:57 p.m.

■ **THEFT** — Property was taken from a home on the 1500 block of South 56th Street sometime between 8:45 a.m. and 9:15 p.m.

■ **THEFT** — Property was removed from a vehicle on the 6700 block of Glen Mawr Avenue sometime between 11:30 p.m. on July 29 and 5:30 p.m. the next day. The driver-side door was forced open.

■ **THEFT** — Property was removed from a vehicle on the 7200 block of Mania Avenue sometime between 9 p.m. on July 29 and 7 a.m. the next day. The driver-side door was forced

open.

■ **THEFT** — Several computers were removed from a building through an unlocked second-floor window at El Cerrito Plaza sometime between July 27 and July 29.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A 1986 Chevy Suburban was stolen from Navellier Street at Mount Court sometime between 7 p.m. on July 29 and 6:45 a.m. the next day.

■ **VEHICLE RECOVERED** — A stolen 1994 Honda Del Sol was recovered by a police officer at Navellier Street near Mount Court.

■ **ATTEMPTED VEHICLE THEFT** — An attempt was made to steal a 1991 Toyota Corolla from the 11700 block of San Pablo Avenue sometime between 5 p.m. on July 29 and 6:15 a.m. the next day.

Tuesday, July 30

■ **THEFT** — Property and cash were taken from a home through an unlocked sliding glass door on the 8700 block of Terrace Drive sometime between 12:20 and 7 a.m. The home had also been ransacked.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — A 1989 Honda Accord was stolen from Cypress Avenue and F Street.

■ **ATTEMPTED FORGERY** — A woman was arrested on suspicion of attempted forgery at a bank on the 9800 block of San Pablo Avenue at 5:35 p.m. The woman was released on a \$100,000 bond.

Wednesday, July 31

■ **VEHICLE RECOVERED** — A stolen 1985 Chevy was recovered by a police officer on the 500 block of Elm Street.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT THWARTED** — A person forcing open the door of a vehicle on the 11700 block of Lexington Avenue was confronted by the owner at 10:15 p.m.

■ **SHOPLIFTING** — A person was arrested on suspicion of shoplifting from a store on the 10600 block of Pablo Avenue at 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 1

■ **ASSAULT** — A Richmond man was arrested on suspicion of assaulting a woman on the 1000 block of Street at 12:50 a.m.

ALBANY POLICE

Monday, July 29

■ **AUTO BURGLARIES** — At about 5 a.m. a resident on the 700 block of Taft Street called to report that a short time earlier she had heard her car alarm go off on her black '89 Honda and she discovered that the trunk was open. She did not think anything was amiss and did not want to go outside again to meet officers to make a report. At about 7:30 a.m. she called again and requested officers take a report because she discovered that one of the windows was broken and the faceplate of her in-dash stereo was missing. While taking the report, officers discovered that a silver '99 Honda Civic on the same block had also been broken into.

■ **VEHICLE BREAK-IN** — A resident at 535 Pierce Street reported that thieves had broken into his white '97 Toyota Camry, which was parked in the parking garage. There were no witnesses.

■ **BUSINESS BREAK-IN** — An employee at a car dealership on the 900 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that thieves had broken into the building and prowled around inside. They apparently set off the alarm and fled. They were not seen.

front of Marin School then drive away. The vehicle was gone when officers arrived.

■ **VANDALISM** — Albany officers arrested a 16-year-old Alameda boy for vandalism and conspiracy. He was cited and released to his parents.

Wednesday, July 31

■ **VEHICLE RECOVERED** — At about 1 a.m. Albany officers located a black '91 Honda Accord in the Golden Gate Fields parking lot that had been reported as stolen from Susan City. The owner was notified.

■ **THEFT** — A resident at 555 Pierce Street reported that thieves had stolen the rear license plate from her blue '82 Honda Accord during the night. There were no witnesses.

■ **OUTSTANDING WARRANTS** — Albany officers arrested a 52-year-old Albany man on the 1100 block of Cornell Avenue for outstanding warrants from BART and from Albany totaling \$2,756. He was cited and released.

Thursday, Aug. 1

■ **DISTURBANCE** — At about 1 a.m. Albany officers responded to a restaurant on the 1400 block of Solano Avenue on reports of a disturbance. The owner reported that he had been attacked by subjects who had forced their way into the restaurant. Upon investigation officers learned that the owner had actually invited the three subjects into his business to discuss settling a civil matter "out of court." He became angered when the discussion did not go as he wanted and began attacking the subjects with items from the store. The 45-year-old Albany man was arrested for kidnapping, assault with a deadly weapon, battery, resisting an officer and felony false detention. He was cited and transported to the Berkeley jail.

■ **THEFT** — A resident on the 1100 block of Key Route Boulevard reported that when she returned home after being gone for three days, she found that thieves had entered

through an unlocked back door and stolen her computer. There were no witnesses.

Friday, Aug. 2

■ **SNIFFING FUMES** — At about 10 p.m. Albany officers responded to a business on the 900 block of San Pablo Avenue on reports of a subject in a lot who was sniffing paint fumes. The 34-year-old transient man was arrested, cited and released.

Saturday, Aug. 3

■ **VANDALISM** — A resident on the 1000 block of Santa Fe Avenue reported that vandals had thrown a brick through her living room window. She did not see anyone.

■ **THEFT** — Unknown thieves stole a garden hose from the front yard of a home on the 500 block of Ramona Avenue.

Sunday, Aug. 4

■ **THEFT** — A resident at 555 Pierce Street reported that thieves had smashed the window of his white '02 Honda Acura and stolen items inside. There were no witnesses.

■ **VEHICLE THEFT** — Shortly before noon a caller from a business on the 600 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that thieves had stolen his white '91 Toyota Camry. Richmond police located the car at 1:30 a.m. the next day. It had been damaged and stripped.

They did not have any weapons.

■ **SUSPENDED LICENSE** — Albany officers stopped a blue car on the 800 block of Street for a vehicle code violation. The driver, a 21-year-old man, was arrested for driving on a suspended license. He was released.

Monday, Aug. 5

■ **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** — Albany officers responded to a block of San Carlos Street for a man and a woman who were inside their home. A check of the 33-year-old Albany man's records showed three outstanding warrants with a suspended license, rest for the warrants and battery, cited and transported to Berkeley jail.

Summary

During the week of July 29, officers towed two cars, 11 false alarms, attended to or deceased animals, and five people who were in their house or car. In the arena, officers responded to a domestic dispute, 14 civil disturbances and 150 civil assists. Officers issued 101 vehicles or persons citations and 46 warnings. Eight medical emergencies were responded to.

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THE JOURNAL

4301 Lakeside Drive, Richmond, CA 94806 • 510-243-5555
Published every Friday • Office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays

Shareef Dajani, general manager • Deborah Byrd, circulation manager

Subscriptions are \$30 per year if carrier-delivered within the Journal's circulation area. Mail subscriptions within the United States are \$100 per year. To subscribe or report a delivery problem call 800-598-4637.

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All items for publication should reach us 10 days in advance of publication and may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed.

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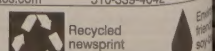
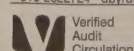
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Classified advertising deadline is 11 a.m. the day before publication.

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THE JOURNAL

4301 Lakeside Drive, Richmond, CA 94806 • 510-243-5555
Published every Friday • Office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays

Shareef Dajani, general manager • Deborah Byrd, circulation manager

Subscriptions are \$30 per year if carrier-delivered within the Journal's circulation area. Mail subscriptions within the United States are \$100 per year. To subscribe or report a delivery problem call 800-598-4637.

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All items for publication should reach us 10 days in advance of publication and may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed.

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Loises share names, company

By Mary Reiley
STAFF WRITER

How friendships develop. Meet a couple at a barbecue and out you have children the same ages. Two strangers meet for the last box of couscous at the supermarket shelf start comparing recipes. You realize others in a group to which you belong have the same uncommon name you thought was almost exclusively

that's what happened three years ago when Lois Barnes, who was born in December, and Lois Atkinson, both of Berkeley, met in discussion group at their Unitarian Universalist church. After services, they began to compare stories related to their shared name. Later, on a trip to Arizona, they learned about a Lois Club and brought the idea home to their friends. Soon after, the Bay Area chapter was born.

The original Lois Club started in Minneapolis, Minn. It is now affiliated with Lois Link Linker, an effort by Lois of Orange to find as many Loises as possible throughout the world.

The Bay Area chapter has 77 members, some living as far away as Half Moon Bay, Sacramento and Cayucos, south of Berkeley. "I obviously hit a nerve with some people, that they would sign up even though they live that far away," said Lois Okerstrom of El Cerrito, a charter member of the local chapter.

Lois is found in the Bible, where Paul remembers Timothy's grandmother, Lois, as a woman of faith (II Timothy 1:5). Okerstrom thinks the name is Greek in origin. Of all the meanings she has heard in her lifetime, she likes "desirable" best.

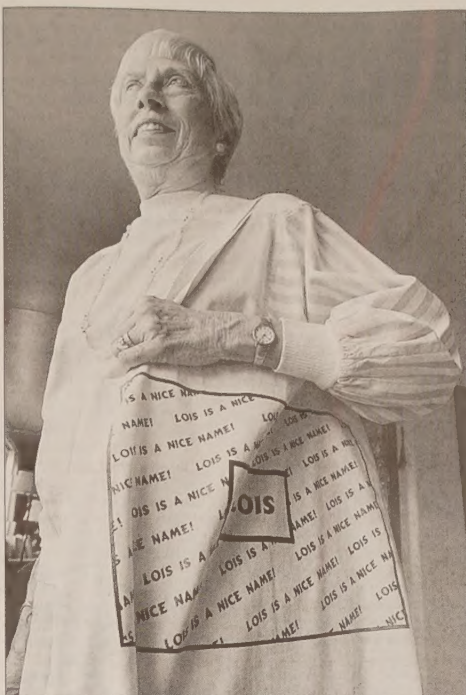
The Lois Club, Bay Area Chapter, met Tuesday for dinner at Jack London Square in Oakland. The next meetings will be in October and December.

The women meet about four times a year for lunch or dinner, always when there is a fifth Tuesday in a month.

Lois clubs have no officers or committees, and no one is allowed to make business solicitations or political statements through club activities. There are also no dues, but members are asked to cover expenses for a newsletter.

Loises who would like more information or to make reservations for Tuesday's dinner, may call Lois Wahle at 510-428-2557. The deadline is Sunday.

To check out the Lois Link Web site, go to www.loislink.com.



GREGORY URQUIAGA/STAFF

LOIS OKERSTROM of El Cerrito is a charter member of the Bay Area's Lois Club, which has about 77 members — all named Lois — and meets when there is a fifth Tuesday of the month.

"It obviously hit a nerve with some people, that they would sign up even though they live that far away."

— Lois Okerstrom, about the Bay Area Lois Club

Rewrites, Reflections.

"It's pieces of my own life that God has put together," she said. She also worked with Gloria Cunningham of Denver, Colo. to compile "Touched by the African Soul." The book is a collection of the personal stories of 62 women — teachers, nurses, secretaries, adult literacy workers and wives of missionaries — who lived and worked in Tanzania.

Lois is found in the Bible, where Paul remembers Timothy's grandmother, Lois, as a woman of faith (II Timothy 1:5). Okerstrom thinks the name is Greek in origin. Of all the meanings she has heard in her lifetime, she likes "desirable" best.

The Lois Club, Bay Area Chapter, met Tuesday for dinner at Jack London Square in Oakland. The next meetings will be in October and December.

The women meet about four times a year for lunch or dinner, always when there is a fifth Tuesday in a month.

Lois clubs have no officers or committees, and no one is allowed to make business solicitations or political statements through club activities. There are also no dues, but members are asked to cover expenses for a newsletter.

Loises who would like more information or to make reservations for Tuesday's dinner, may call Lois Wahle at 510-428-2557. The deadline is Sunday.

To check out the Lois Link Web site, go to www.loislink.com.

Bishop Cummins to stay put for now

GOOD NEWS for East Bay Catholics: The stories about Bishop John Cummins' imminent retirement — like those of Mark Twain's demise — are greatly exaggerated.

It all started a few weeks ago, when a columnist for (as we say) "another paper" reported that the bishop was about to hang up his miter.

In a classic example of pack journalism, the story was picked up by the rest of the media, none of whom bothered to ask the bishop himself. Before you could say "mea culpa," the Diocese switchboard was swamped by calls from panicky parishioners who are loath to lose their beloved bishop.

"I don't know where (the columnist) got that story," Bishop Cummins told me last week. "It's not true. Yes, I'll technically submit my formal resignation when I turn 75 next March, but it can take years for the Vatican to act on it. I suspect they have more important things on their minds right now."

Not that he'll have any say-so on choosing his successor, but Bishop Cummins says the next Bishop of Oakland will have to have two important skills.

"First, he'll have to be fluent in Spanish. It would be even better if he knew Chinese, Lao, Vietnamese, Cambodian or Tagalog, too. And second, he'll have to have a lot more leadership skills than I have."

I nearly dropped my pen when he said that because if you looked up "leadership" in the dictionary, it would have a picture of Bishop Cummins. He's the man, after all, who installed a zero-tolerance sexual abuse policy 15 years ago.

And there were no lawsuits or newspaper reporters making him do it, either. He did it because it was the right thing. But I guess that's the way real leaders talk. Speaking about his hero, Pope John XXIII, Bishop Cummins said, "He was just a really humble guy" — words that could be applied with equal justice to himself.

Berkeley's Sedge Thomson, who hosts one of my favorite radio shows, "West Coast Live," every Saturday morning on KALW-FM (91.7), was broadcasting the show live from one of my favorite restaurants, The Bay Wolf in Oakland, a few weeks



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

ago. Nothing if not spontaneous, Sedge decided to interview the customers and ask them how they liked their meals.

"Not much!" snapped an older woman, who proceeded to expound in great detail about how awful the food was, as Sedge's face got redder and redder in embarrassment. It wasn't until weeks later that he found out he'd been had. She was the chef's mother.

Looting! Pillaging! Swash-buckling! Damsels in distress! And it's all sung in four-part harmony! It's Gilbert & Sullivan's most raucous, rollicking operetta, "The Pirates of Penzance," featuring some of the world's most hummable tunes (including "Hail, Hail, The Gang's All Here"). And it's never been shown to better advantage than the production currently running in San Francisco. It's the latest offering of The Lamplighters, the best Gilbert & Sullivan company on Earth.

And that's no exaggeration: Every year, G&S troupes from all over the world compete at the International Gilbert & Sullivan Festival in Buxton, England. And The Lamplighters always win. They're that good.

But this time they've outdone even themselves. I saw the show on Opening Night last Friday, and I had so much fun, I went back again for the Sunday matinee. What singing! And I don't just mean the leads; every member of the chorus has an exquisite, operatically-trained voice. And the 22-piece Lamplighters Orchestra was as tight as the Rolling Stones.

But the real star of the show is someone who is never on-stage: the director, Christopher Walky. This is Chris' first shot directing a Lamplighters produc-

tion, but his success comes as no surprise to those of us who are still laughing at his hilarious star turn in last year's "Mikado."

I'm not going to spoil the fun for you by revealing the jokes, but suffice it to say that he cleverly uses the choreography and stage business to underscore the humor — not just the wit in Gilbert's lyrics but also the subtle musical jokes in Sullivan's score.

"The Pirates" is my favorite G&S musical of all; and that's saying a lot. I pretty much know it by heart. But there were times during this production when I said to myself, "Gee, I never noticed that before!"

If you're a G & S fan like me, this is a must-see. It's like seeing "The Pirates" for the first time all over again, and what could be better than that? If you haven't been turned on to G&S yet, "The Pirates" is the perfect place to start.

If you can imagine "Captain Blood" as performed by Monty Python, you've got the idea. And by all means, bring the kids. I spotted several youngsters in the audience, and they were screaming with laughter right along with the rest of us. (They were really cute after the show, too, asking the performers to autograph their programs.)

The ticket prices for kids are really cheap — as low as \$10 for children 12 and under. "The Pirates" will be at the Yerba Buena Center in San Francisco through Aug. 18, then it moves over to this side of the Bay for a brief run at the Dean Leshner Regional Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek Aug. 22, 23 and 24.

My advice is to catch it in San Francisco, for the simple reason that Lamplighters shows in Walnut Creek tend to sell out awfully quickly. Besides, the Yerba Buena Center is really easy to get to on BART. Just get off at the Powell St. station, walk a short couple of blocks to 3rd and Howard, and voila! Or, as we G&S fans say, "O rapture!"

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THE JOURNAL

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson

EDITORIAL

Expect voter backlash

IMAGINE THAT YOU are a member of the board of directors of a public agency that provides an important public service funded, of course, with taxpayer dollars. Now imagine that the economy in which you operate is on very shaky ground. Your revenues have been decreasing. You have knuckled under to union demands in a ridiculous contract simply to avoid a strike. You have increased fares. You have cut back services. And, finally, you have laid off some of those very same union workers because of the contract you signed.

Now imagine that you have to go to the voters and ask at least two-thirds of them to raise their taxes to fund a \$1 billion, 40-year program to help buttress your service against a major earthquake.

Not at all a pretty picture, is it? Ugly as it is, that is the reality facing the board of directors of the Bay Area Rapid Transit.

The BART board voted 6-0, with one abstaining and two absent, to place such a measure on the November ballot.

Talk about your bad timing. However great the need, BART is going to have a tough time getting this one through.

Polls taken by BART indicated that support already falls slightly short of the two-thirds needed. Conventional political wisdom says that bond measures that don't start out with about a 75 percent approval rate on initial polling typically falls well short of two-thirds needed once a campaign has occurred.

We fully expect that will be the case with this measure.

It is not difficult to glean the board's motivation for placing such a measure on the ballot. The system is vulnerable, and board members are the financial stewards of that system. If they knew that the system had earthquake vulnerability and did nothing about it, they could be accused of shirking that responsibility. This way, the onus is on the voters. Directors can say, "Hey, we tried."

To pass a tax increase with a two-thirds vote over a large district such as this will require limited or nonexistent opposition. We are sure that won't be the case.

In BART's case it also would need the help that union members could give it with their active support. Don't hold your breath for that one. The unions are frosted at the BART board about the layoffs, which they don't believe were justified or were caused by the contract, and they have indicated a distinct lack of interest in helping support the tax increase.

BART officials have said that a \$3 million "education" campaign is planned to help voters understand the need for the retrofit, which would be aimed primarily at the strengthening the transbay tube. They also say that the campaign money would be raised privately.

It is difficult for us to imagine who might donate money to such an endeavor. The only logical source we can think of is contractors, who, of course, would stand to benefit from such massive construction activities.

BART has received some good publicity lately as it has been making test runs on its new extension to San Francisco International Airport, which is due to open later this year. But we don't think that public goodwill is going to be enough to forestall a voter backlash on this measure in November.

JEFF HANSEN • HILLS NEWSPAPERS

HEY! WHAT'S UP WITH THAT?
I'VE GOT ANOTHER MONTH
OF SUMMER VACATION.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Get involved

This letter concerns the safety of children in our schools, here in El Cerrito and throughout California.

As a concerned parent, I urge all parents to contact the West Contra Costa Unified School District board to implement, in all school curriculums, an abduction awareness workshop for parents and children. Please, let's make a difference in our schools and help our children be safe.

Also, write a letter to Gov. Gray Davis and to the White House requesting stronger laws. There should be a bill passed that any abduction of our children will automatically put a predator straight to prison, with no chance of parole.

Jaime Rodriguez
El Cerrito

List nutrition info

There has been a good deal of publicity recently about the increasing obesity of Americans, in particular children. Studies show that when people eat out — which they are doing more frequently — they eat more fat, less fiber, and fewer vitamins and minerals than when they prepare food at home.

The Center for Science in the Public Interest reports restaurants and cafeterias provide Americans with about one-third of their calories and most do it without disclosing even a single nutrition fact. This, the center states, is because the restaurant industry persuaded Congress to exempt its food from the 1990 Nutrition Labeling and Education Act.

Since menus don't have the space for a full set of numbers for every item, they could at least list calories, fat and sodium. Fast-food chains could easily put these facts on their menu boards.

Vending machines could also disclose

calories next to the price of each item. In this way, diners could take nutrition into account when they order.

I urge our state and Bay Area cities to require nutrition information on the menus of fast-food and other chain restaurants and on vending machines.

Sheryl Kramer
Berkeley

Commission overdue

El Cerrito is long overdue for an arts and culture commission.

The parks and recreation department, which traditionally handles arts and crafts related programs, is already overburdened. With so many different cultural organizations and concerns in our city, and untapped government, business and private resources, we are daily missing opportunities to create a more cohesive and appealing community.

At the upcoming meeting of Aug. 19, a proposal will be brought before the City Council to create such a commission. Please show your support in any way possible, by writing to or calling council members, and especially by attending the meeting.

Let the Council know you recognize the benefits for our children and local

morale that would come from an organization devoted to furthering our cultural and artistic presence.

Arlin Rosenthal

Sole voice of honor

Colin Powell seems to represent the voice of honor in the Bush administration.

He insists on working with the mutually elected representatives of the countries, thus showing respect for the rights of other nations. He advocates the Geneva Convention for treatment of detainees in the war on terrorism.

He is not tainted by association with the white-collar crimes of Enron and corporate scandals. He is a man of principles during a time of power grabbing and arbitrariness in the White House.

If Bush-Cheney-Rumsfeld marginalize Powell in the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, attacks on Iraq, and if they continue to up their complicity in the Enron scandal, urge Congress to impeach them. Powell can be president, before that mongering trio further messes up our country and relations with the rest of the world.

Nancy Kessler

Forgotten pedestrians

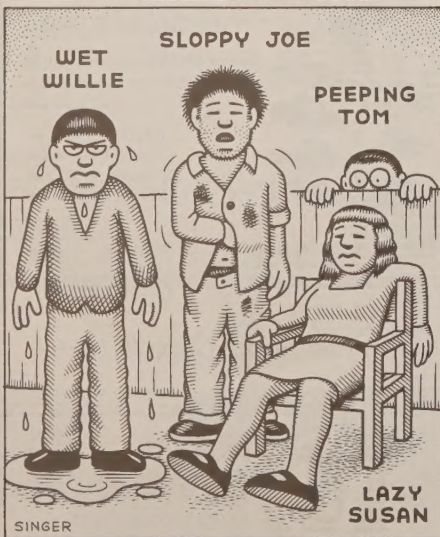
Looks as if the developer of the El Cerrito Plaza forgot that people like to walk in an open mall.

The only safe way is the long road to Petco and Albertson's. The circle in the middle confuses drivers, as well as people walking through. Watching people try to cross who has the right of way is amazing.

Cars and people just do not mix such a poorly marked and designed intersection. Someone really dropped the ball.

Craig West

NO EXIT © Andy Singer



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Open investigation needed in city tax case

By Steve Magyary

COMMENTARY

WE'VE ALL BEEN reading about a host of scandals — either government (the Oracle case in Sacramento) or corporate (Enron, Global Crossing, WorldCom). We've been focusing on these larger issues when similar problems may exist right here in El Cerrito. Let me explain.

On Feb. 19, financial services manager Brian Foster presented a long list of financial shortcomings of previous city management. In the middle of this list there was one that stood out due to its political, procedural and financial significance: "Prior city staff waived the business license tax for certain businesses and certain classes of business without any authority to do so."

The implications of this practice are significant in that by excusing certain classes of businesses, staff had usurped the role of the council (it's the role of the council alone to set policy), and staff did so without public disclosure and discussion, resulting in preferential treatment for some.

The ability to tax, and therefore to exempt from taxes, is

one of the most powerful rights the public invests in its government; it did not grant that power to staff to exercise and in particular not without disclosure.

As a result, a substantial amount of revenue was lost to the city; over a 10-year period it could have amounted to \$400,000. This loss occurred during a time when El Cerrito was in serious financial straits. This practice also left the city vulnerable to accusations of corruption with a possibility of personal, political or financial gain by some.

Realizing that disclosure of essential facts is necessary for honest government, I repeatedly asked, starting on March 4, for the council to refer this matter to the grand jury for an independent and impartial examination. Despite a call by council members Brusatori and Perka to have this issue put on the agenda for immediate discussion, it festered for five months.

When finally put on the July 15 council meeting's agenda, the analysis of this matter provided by staff was not forthcom-

ing as to who, when, why and how this practice happened.

Who exempted some businesses? When did this exemption begin? Why would staff do this exemption and risk discovery of their action for which they knew they did not have authority? How were the businesses to be exempted selected?

Current staff has been unresponsive and evasive in complying with a formal request for information under the California Public Records Act.

Why did dealing with this issue get delayed by the city for five months? Could some prominent members of the city's business community be among those who didn't pay this tax? The delay and faulty analysis provided by staff proves the need for an independent investigation, once again demonstrating that it is a bad idea to have the institution responsible for creating and committing the problem investigate itself. The temptation for cover-up and "circling the wagons" rather than being forthright is simply too strong.

A vote to forward this issue to the grand jury failed, with two votes in favor (Brusatori,

Perka), two opposed (Moore, Moore) and Mayor Abelson abstaining. Councilman Friedman called the investigation an independent investigation with hunt, and a "money" he's in good with that executives of Com, Enron etc. undertake the investigation activities the same way.

We have come to a point of affairs when an elected official tries to stifle a call to truth by slandering the public. Equally, Mayor Abelson's characterization of the call for an independent investigation "How so? Perhaps Mayor Abelson can explain why what happened is possible."

A democracy, of the people, cannot afford decisions and facts, those concerning tax den from the election matter begs for an investigation, not a cover-up only thus can trust in government be re-established.

Steve Magyary is co-chair of El Cerrito Citizens Action and may be reached at 4611 or magyary@earthlink.net

True leadership about sharing, not controlling

STRONG LEADERSHIP is critical to school success but may look different than many expect. The principal is not the only leader, and leadership isn't about giving orders.

The change in the concept of leadership started in the private sector, explains Merrill Price, executive director of the Bay Area School Reform Collaborative, which offered personnel from member schools days of leadership training last week.

What the private sector learned is that, "The old-fashioned, top-down, command-and-control model doesn't work very well."

The team approach started in a couple of decades ago, she explains, and attracted attention of American firms because it led to higher-quality work with fewer mistakes.

Good management is seen in developing leadership in the public sector, including schools, has been slower to catch on in this new definition of leadership.

The entire public sector is structured to be a hotbed of competition. It's structured to be competitive.

Traditionally, Vargo explains, "The traditional view of leadership didn't leave a lot of room for leadership." Teachers typically given a lot of autonomy to run their classrooms as they chose, while principals and other administrators were left managing the school, such as making sure the buses got fixed and the buses ran on time.

The idea that leadership responsibilities can be shared in schools in which teachers are accustomed to taking on responsibility for their own classrooms. The challenge in making the transition to the new model is getting teachers to open their doors and collaborate with one another.

That's a struggle for people. A lot of good people went into teaching because they love the autonomy. Collaborative has a lot of skills people want to learn and practice,



BETTY KING BUGINAS
Schools

and that takes time. In the current structure of schools there is no time for collaboration. When I visit Bay Area School Reform Collaborative schools, I'm awestruck by what they're able to accomplish given the lack of collaboration time.

When teachers take on leadership responsibilities, it can take many forms. Some will have formal roles such as serving as department chairs or coordinating collection of data.

School districts, Vargo says, are beginning to invest in teacher leadership, such as paying for literacy coaches who provide guidance to other teachers.

But even a formal title doesn't guarantee someone will be a leader. Similarly, a leader "may be just the one who steps up to the plate to help someone new." Or, it could be someone who is influential.

"Any teacher knows who the teachers are that others respect and who set the tone for the school."

Effective leaders, says Vargo, know what they stand for. They are able to talk about what they are passionate about in a way that makes sense to others. And, she says, "They don't just talk, they are good listeners."

"They are patient, and sometimes impatient. They are willing to let some things take time, and other times they have a sense of urgency - that we have to do something now."

Leadership also takes courage. "You can't be a leader without someone being mad at you. It's not about applause."

Betty King Buginas is a teacher in the West Contra Costa Unified School District and a former city editor of the West County Times.

Local uses vacation to give back to others



CLARA-RAE GENSER
Community Folk

FRAN BEHRINGER is friendly, outgoing and hard-working, traits which have served her well during the past 12 years as she has helped manage Kit & Kaboodle, the hobby shop in the El Cerrito Plaza.

But for her summer vacation, she's not doing anything hobby-related. She plans to work with the humanitarian aid group Cross Cultural Solutions in Peru.

The nonprofit organization places participants in countries including India, Ghana and Peru for a variety of projects, the ultimate goal of which, Behringer explains, is to empower and promote international understanding through direct people-to-people interaction.

Behringer wants to do something that will help make a difference in Peru. She wants particularly to focus on HIV/AIDS awareness, women's empowerment and immunization clinics.

The one hitch is that all volunteers must cover their own expenses for food, lodging and medical insurance, which for Behringer would be \$2,450, not including air fare.

Cross-Cultural Solutions says it does not seek funding from religious or government agencies for its volunteer programs and claims that 88 percent of its funds go to its field programs with 12 percent going for administration, financial

and accounting expenses. The organization's income comes from volunteer fees which vary by country and length of stay. The El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce has been supporting Behringer in her quest.

When we talked, Behringer was about a third of the way toward her goal, and she says, the El Cerrito community Plaza has been generous. She's optimistic about raising the money she will need.

"I have two weeks I can give to the world," Behringer says. "The world has given me plenty. I thought it was time to give something back."

For more information on Fran Behringer and her goal of getting to Peru for humanitarian work with Cross-Cultural Solutions, call her at Kit & Kaboodle, 510-524-9942.

Do you know people, places or groups in El Cerrito, Albany or Kensington that would make good subjects for this column? If so, please write me at 555 Pierce St., No. 443, Albany, CA 94706 or call 525-4585. My e-mail is crgenser@aol.com.



JOANNA JHANDA/STAFF

FRAN BEHRINGER is planning a charitable vacation to Peru through Cross-Cultural Solutions, a nonprofit organization similar to the Peace Corps.

Two more file papers for school boards seats

STAFF REPORT

Political newcomer Ray Muhammad and incumbent Glen Price added their names to West Contra Costa school board race this week.

Muhammad, 38, filed election papers with the Contra Costa County registrar Tuesday. Price, 48, filed Friday.

The two will vie for one of three open seats on the five-member school board, which governs the 33,000-student West Contra Costa school district.

Incumbent Charles Ramsey is also running in the Nov. 5 election. Muhammad, a Richmond native, city firefighter and former West Contra Costa teacher, is

trying to make a political office debut.

"I want to make the schools SAFE," Muhammad said. "'S' is for salary increases for school site personnel and adequate staffing. 'A' is for accountability for all district employees. 'F' is for facilities that are clean, well-built and maintained. And 'E' is for educational equality for all students."

Price, an El Cerrito resident running for his second term on the board, is owner of the Glenn Price Group, which does strategic planning and fundraising for nonprofit and government agencies.

Price said he's proud of the strides he and other board and community members have made

over the past four years.

"But the work isn't done yet," Price said in a statement. "We've started several initiatives that are

incredibly important to the future of our children. I'd like to continue to be part of the team that sees that this work is completed."

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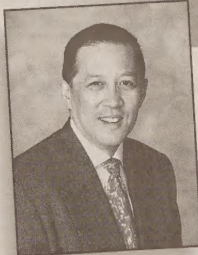


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ALBANY CHAMBER NOTES

By James Carter

Is business a wee bit sluggish? Well, we are bullish on Albany! Our aim is to rid folks of the jitters, prove there is a cure to the summertime blues and show newcomers that Albany has something going for it unmatched anywhere in the East Bay! Yes, together we can draw folks to our little town where the sun shines just right, entrepreneurs have minds of their own and everyone will give you the time of day ...

The Albany Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the first in what will be an ongoing campaign designed to draw shoppers and diners to Albany. We are calling it "Summer Days and Nights in Albany — Where Main Street Meets the Future."

During the daylight hours of Aug. 24 and Aug. 31, there will be live entertainment on both Solano and San Pablo Avenues. We are organizing an art display on both avenues as well and encourage businesses to display work in their windows. Interested? Give us a call at 510-525-1771, and we'll hook you up.

During the days and weeks before — and after — Summer Days and Nights, we will also organize teams to remove whatever graffiti exists around town. And we will show merchants how to clean up any such scrawl scribbled or painted on your business with simple, inexpensive materials.

PUT THE SPOTLIGHT ON ALBANY: We hope to brighten up the city at night with clear white lights in the windows of shops and restaurants. We have them and will loan them to you if you wish. Just give us a call.

A full-page promotional piece will run in The Journal, Berkeley Voice, Montclairian, and Piedmonter, courtesy of Hills Newspapers, which has also offered a special reduced advertising rate for Albany businesses and restaurants during our campaign. Better take advantage of this great deal! This is your chance to promote your business in more than 64,000 households in the East Bay.

For more information about "Summer Days and Nights," come by the Chamber at 1108 Solano Avenue, call us, or send an e-mail to: albanychamber@bigplanet.com.

WHEN THE MOON HITS THE SKY LIKE a big pizza pie, that's amore ...

Imagine an Italian restaurant right out of the '50s. Close your eyes for a moment and what do you see? Red-and-white checkerboard tablecloths, candlelight flickering from atop bottles of Chianti, romantic music ("Volare, oh, oh ..."), plates stacked high with fresh homemade pasta and garlic bread, bowls of fresh salad and a glass of fine wine. Oh, and to make everything just right and complete the scene, there you are with your significant other. No, wait a minute, this is the '50s

we're talking about. Picture yourself beside your main squeeze, your baby, your lover!

Sound lovely? Well, the Albany Chamber will stage just such a dinner event Saturday, Sept. 7, an evening we are calling "The Big Night Out." For more information, call us at 510-525-1771.

New members

Doctors Medical Center, San Pablo/Pinole is a full-service hospital. It provides for all your health care needs, including outpatient services, intensive and emergency services, cardiac care and surgery, drug rehabilitation, obstetrics, cancer treatment, physical therapy, pulmonary rehabilitation and radiology lab work — to name just a few.

Having trouble sleeping at night? They have a clinic to treat that ailment, too.

The Medical Center accepts most insurance plans, including Medi-Cal patients. The center has served the community for more than 20 years and has a friendly and professional staff of 300 highly-trained doctors, specialists, nurses and support crew. Awarded a four-star rating for patient satisfaction, due in large measure to their ongoing efforts to improve customer service, The Doctors Medical Center provides the best medical care available with a humane, personal touch.

For more information: 510-970-5000.

GULP: This is a kid's dream come true. Located at 1247 Solano Avenue, owner Kenneth Mak caters to children, mostly, satisfying every type of sweet tooth in every kind of head. Adults are allowed to indulge their cravings there as well. Gulp offers a delightful selection of ice cream, scooped with artistic perfection and served atop a sugar cone or, if you prefer, a nice, round white cup.

Do you or your child have a hankering for a homemade milkshake, one whirled and pearled in a frosty silver canister the old-fashioned way, served thick and creamy and cold? Go to Gulp, and, well, gulp it down and get a brain-freeze. Or, if you prefer, sip at Gulp, nibble, munch and take your time tasting all the treats there.

Your young gun can go to Gulp and put on a happy face — or a bright star sticker, get a tattoo (the wash-off kind), find a cute kiddy key chain, buy a Popsicle or an ice cream bar (Hagen Daas! Yum!), purchase bonbons, a frappuccino, lollipops, fruit and crunch bars and a hundred other things.

Need Mylar "Happy Birthday" balloons for your child's party? Gulp's got them, along with hearts, "You're #1!" and all types and manner of things that put a smile on a child's face. You must provide the love, however. For more information: 510-526-8690.

Bowling

FROM PAGE A1

"If they tip more than 10 degrees," Tierney says, "they're going down."

The pins aren't the only things that have been tweaked; so have the balls and the lanes themselves. The cardinal rule of bowling is that the last thing you want to do (short of rolling a gutter ball) is roll the ball straight down the middle of the lane. That will knock down the center pins, but it leaves them standing on either end — in other words, the dreaded split.

Instead, experienced bowlers try to throw a curve, what the pros call a "hook." The ball starts near the center, makes an arc almost to the gutter, then curves back inward so that it hits the pins at an angle, tossing them every which way.

"The greater the friction between the ball and the lane, the greater the hook," Tierney says.

And he has some subtle ways of increasing that friction. For one thing, the old hard-surface rubber balls have given way to high-tech composite resins with much softer surfaces.

"We call 'em 'Hook-In-A-Box,'" Tierney says. "You can buy a \$200 ball, have no talent at all, and still hook it."

For another, the lanes are no longer solid maple. They're still made of maple for the first 15 feet or so, because they need the hardness of maple to withstand the initial shock of the ball hitting the floor. But the rest of the way is paved with soft pine, again to increase the hook.

But the real secret is the thin layer of oil that covers each lane. The Albany Bowl has a special machine that spreads the oil. It's run by a computer program which lays out the stuff in a precise pattern — more in the center, less toward the edges — that further increases the hook.

And if all else fails, each lane has special "bumpers" that can be pulled out at the flick of a switch to block the gutters and make it impossible to roll a gutter ball.

"Some of our customers are as young as 2 and as old as 90," explains Tierney. "We want them all to have a good time. If you're able to push the ball down the lane, you can score."

The Albany Bowl opened its doors Aug. 5, 1949, which makes last Monday its 53rd birthday. Its first owner was the late Frank

Lacy. After his death it went through several owners until 1985, when it was sold to Tierney and his partners, Ken Friedman and Max Blumenfeld.

It's a piece of living history, a throwback to the '50s — or, at least, the good parts about the '50s. It was the first bowling center in the country to install automatic pinspotting machines, back in 1975.

Professional bowlers like Helen Duval and 10-time PBA Champion Mike McGrath got their start there. The Albany Bowl has been sponsoring the same Little League team, the Senators, for 46 straight years, ever since the League's first season in 1956. Every year, teenaged members of the Bowl's Junior Youth Bowling League earn more than \$3,000 in college scholarships.

More than 20 different bowling leagues — bearing names like Plaza Mixers, Monday Rollers, Fratellanza Women, and the Albany Bowl's own in-house team, the East Bay Blazers — bowl there every week.

There's a conscious effort to keep the place family-friendly. Smoking has been banned everywhere, including the bar (called, naturally, The Spare Room).

No profanity is allowed. While being interviewed for this story, Tierney threw out a group of teenagers for cursing. He was polite about it, and he willingly refunded their money, but he was not about to have foul language in his place.

Then there's the name change. Tierney visibly flinches when you call it a bowling alley, because "alley" harks back to the days when bowling was considered a, well, lower-class sport.

Sport of the rich

Ironically, bowling actually started out as the sport of the aristocracy, like golf, because only the rich had enough money to build lanes.

In 1588, when England was invaded by the Spanish Armada, the British commander, Sir Francis Drake, was engaging in a game of bowls when a breathless messenger rushed up with a note saying the enemy had been spotted. Drake calmly read the message and went back to his bowling, saying, "There's time to finish the game and beat the Spaniards, too."

Tierney himself has been in the bowling business almost as long at the Albany Bowl. His parents owned a bowling alley on



NOT SO STODGY these days, the bowling center features lights, lighted bumpers, easier lanes and one great sound.

Long Island when he was growing up. One of his earliest childhood memories is of watching the legendary Andy Verippappa.

"He was unbelievable," Tierney marvels. "He could make the ball curve back and forth between the gutters like a snake, slower than you ever saw a bowling ball move, hit the head pin, and then come back to him."

Finally, Tierney revealed the answer to the question that has puzzled bowlers for generations: namely, where do old bowling pins go when they're too nicked

and dinged to be used for original purpose any more.

"The answer has been the years," he says. "Twenty years ago, they were made of wood. But today they're made with a plastic called Sphéron, which is highly toxic when it's burned. So now we donate them to banyan and El Cerrito del Norte for target practice."

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Alcatraz

PAGE A1

Lageson's first book, "Battle at Alcatraz: A Desperate Attempt to Escape the Rock," was published in 1992 and describes the escape attempt that resulted in the trial. The inmates took over the prison and took nine guards as hostages, intending to trade them for a boat that would take them to freedom.

The key had been hidden, and the prisoners no escape. 24 hours later, after a riot involving the Marine special weapons team, 16 of the inmates and one guard were dead. The rest of the inmates had been injured. During the incident, one of the escapees was ordered by his captives to shoot and kill the inmates after an alarm was sounded and it was clear they were getting off the island.

They were all shot but only Lageson was left. A bullet grazed one of his left cheeks, but he went forward and pretended to kill the prisoners were captured. It probably saved his life. The hostage was Ernie Lageson, the author's father.

on Alcatraz

Ernie Lageson Jr. lived on "the Rock" for three years beginning in 1946. He was 10, in an apartment building that was a former army barracks, while his father worked

AUTHOR

WHAT: Ernie Lageson, whose most recent book "Alcatraz Justice: The Rock's Most Famous Murder Trial" (Creative Arts Book Co., \$15.95) was released in May

WHERE: Lageson takes almost weekly trips on Fridays to the Rock as a "guest author" to sign books and greet visitors

INFORMATION: Call 415-705-5555 or go on-line at www.alcatrazhistory.com

there. He saw the prisoners working in denim jumpsuits and commuted by boat to school in San Francisco.

"It was fun, it was really cool," said Lageson, who had moved to San Francisco by the time the 1946 escape attempt occurred. "I knew it was a prison," he added. "I knew the guys in the denim outfits were convicts, but I had no fear of them. They were just like so many guys."

Lageson attended Boalt Hall School of Law at UC Berkeley and was a trial lawyer for 35 years, 25 of those with the San Francisco law firm Bronson, Bronson & McKinnon.

He began researching and writing the book about the escape from Alcatraz when he retired in 1992. He'd always hoped his father would write his own book, but Lageson Sr. died of cancer at age 42 before he had the chance. Lageson Jr. was 19 at the time.

"I decided some day, God will-

ing, I'd write the book and dedicate it to him," Lageson said.

The research and writing for both books took three years altogether. He read the four daily San Francisco newspapers from the day and a 3,000-page transcript from the month-long trial "several times," he said. He also interviewed Archer Zambloch, one of the few lawyers from that trial still living.

"Both books are written like novels," Lageson said. "They're written like fiction, but both are very accurate and very well-researched."

The trial resulted in death sentences for Sam Shockley and Miran Thompson. A life-sentence was given to Clarence Carnes, a 19-year Native American from the Choctaw Indian Reservation in Atoka, Okla., who was in prison for a murder committed during a service station hold-up when he was 16.

Carnes was spared his life based on the testimony of Lageson Sr. Carnes was supposed to eliminate the hostages so there would be no witnesses. Not wanting to kill them, Carnes lied to his fellow inmates that the hostages were dead.

"Carnes' defense was a humanitarian thing," said Lageson. "He was trying to save the lives of the officers."

Shockley was given a death sentence even though he was mentally disturbed and disabled. Lageson considers it an injustice and doubts a jury today would hand down such a harsh sentence.

Thompson's death sentence capped his career as an armed

robber who was well-known among Alcatraz inmates for shooting and killing a police officer in Amarillo, Texas.

In the book, Lageson describes the actions and thought processes of the prisoners — Thompson, Carnes and Shockley — as well as the important players in trial, such as Federal District Judge Louis Goodman, who was considered a political liberal but who made life difficult for the defense, conducting the trial like a "law-and-order" judge.

Miran Thompson was represented by attorney Ernie Spagnoli, considered a "rebel before his time" for his early opposition to the death penalty. He was also the first attorney to successfully defend a murder case on the theory of temporary insanity.

Spagnoli also had an interesting personal life, marrying Muriel Rey, a model, but divorcing a few days later. He also married Sally Stanford, a brothel owner in the 1920s, according to Lageson.

Prosecutor Frank Hennessy was a well-known attorney and politician in his day, and took on the case himself rather than letting one of the other attorneys in his office handle it, said Lageson.

Lageson said that while much has written about Alcatraz, this is the first book to describe the trial and its participants.

"It's all done in lay terms. You don't have to be a lawyer to understand this," said Lageson. "It's a very detailed and yet very readable story of the trial."

Landscape

FROM PAGE A1

move in and what the priorities are and what's important to the citizens of El Cerrito," he added.

The city may find it needs to upgrade the maintenance of certain facilities. For example, if all residents play soccer, the city may find it needs to direct more resources to that area, Vallier said.

"We need to know where real demand is," she said.

Within the next few months, Vallier will complete a draft of the landscape management plan and give it to the city's Park and Recreation Commission and the City Council for discussion and, eventually, approval, said Vallier.

"It's a really good project," she added. "This is the first municipality that has taken this type of interest in public lands. No other city in the Bay Area that I know of is doing this."

For more information about the landscape management plan or the survey, call Vallier Design Associates at 510-237-7745.

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or at alopez1@cctimes.com.

Albany

FROM PAGE A1

branch library.

The City Council has authorized placing the repair project up for bids and a contractor to do the improvements will likely be approved by the council at its Aug. 19 meeting.

"All sides of the tower will have new stucco and there will be new stucco on south and west sides of the building," said Pollard, of the repair project. "On the north and east sides there will be spot work."

In the meantime, \$1 million upgrades to Memorial Park that were supposed to take place this summer have been postponed while city officials figure out whether to use that money instead for the community center repairs.

"We were just about to do (the Memorial Park project) this summer and fall, but we felt that given the costs of the community center, the prudent thing for the city to do is take care of what it needs to do for its immediate purposes," Pollard said.

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or at alopez1@cctimes.com.

Record

PAGE A1

draw national attention to the factor, a serious message Sunday's new record feed.

Best-feeding advocates point to health benefits for breast-feeding and the bonding experience it affords both mother and child. The unique nutritional value of breast milk has been shown to ward off illness and promote healthy development in babies.

roadcasting this message some courtesy of the bible

of many records — born as a promotional gimmick for a brewery and the final word on the world's loudest belch (118.1 decibels), biggest gum wrapper collection (5,100), and fastest fish (saifish, 68 mph) — then so be it.

Event organizer Ellen Sirbu, director of Berkeley's nutrition program for women and children, said the event would be unnecessary if government agencies were doing an adequate job of promoting breast-feeding.

Organizers were confident bordering on cocky in the days leading up to the event but were jolted a bit by news earlier in the week that an Australian group

had gotten 767 breast feeding mothers together to handily beat the old record of 536, also set by a group "down under."

Kristin Olmes of Oakland hoped to be able to one day tell 1-year-old Cecilia that she had a hand — er, mouth — in setting a world record. "She might be amused by it someday," Olmes said.

Despite appearances, the event wasn't one of those "only in liberal Berkeley" events. The conservative bastion of Orange County made an attempt to beat the

record on Wednesday, but despite an earnest effort, they didn't come anywhere near Berkeley's number.

Reach Greg Cannon at 510-262-2713 or e-mail gccannon@cctimes.com.

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Drivers wanted:

Donate supplies to needy children

By Sara Steffens
STAFF WRITER

When they file into their new classrooms for the first time, totting fresh pencils and straining against still-stiff shoes, kids know that things are starting over.

The grade book has not yet been opened. The chalkboard lists no names of the misbehaved. Nothing that happened last year matters much.

On the first day of school, a kid feels like he or she could become anything.

That's how it should be, anyway.

But for the thousands of East Bay children growing up in poverty, back-to-school may end up being just one more day to feel left out.

In Alameda County, 30 percent of students come from low-income families. In Contra Costa County, it's 27 percent.

In these kids' homes, rent, food and clothes fight for a share of the meager family budget. And often, that means there's nothing left over for "extras" such as new crayons or a spiral organizer.

While other kids arrive at school toting new backpacks stuffed with supplies, these kids will likely arrive empty-handed — that is, unless you step in to help.

Today, Hills Newspapers kicks off its second year of participation in Project Ready to Learn, a drive started three years ago by its sister papers, the Times, to collect new school supplies for local kids who might otherwise go without.

Now through Aug. 30, Hills offices will accept donations (see "How to Help" for details).

Collection bins also stand waiting at the offices of our sister publications, the Times newspapers.

This year, we're joined by a new project partner: the Junior League of Oakland-East Bay.

Junior League volunteers will help sort and transport your donations — which promises to be a huge task, judging by the generosity readers have shown in years past.

"It's a great project for us because it's in direct coalition with our mission statement, which is helping at-risk children," says Allison Bowden, president of the Junior League. "With these backpacks, you can see this is directly affecting children. ...

"As women, and for most of us as mothers, that's a huge thing for us — to be able to help those other mothers that maybe aren't as lucky."

In Contra Costa County, donated supplies will be distributed



DAN ROSENSTRAUCH/STAFF

PROJECT READY TO LEARN gives backpacks and other school supplies to low-income children in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. Donations may be made to the program through Aug. 30.

DETAILS

■ **STAY INFORMED:** For updates on Project Ready to Learn, visit www.bayarea.com/mlt/cotimes/living/education/

■ **INSIDE:** Ready to help? Find out how on Page 2.

by Volunteer and Emergency Services, the nonprofit, volunteer arm of the Contra Costa County Employment and Human Services Department.

These items will go to the "poorest of the poor," kids whose families are enrolled in the CalWorks assistance program, says district manager Suzan Lawrence.

Last year, she said, county case workers were thrilled to be part of the distribution.

"Kids just clutched the backpacks," Lawrence says. "It was more than school supplies: It was something of their very own, and something to be really proud of because it was brand-new. They were gorgeous backpacks."

"The first day of school is so important," Lawrence adds. "This gift ... is one way to try to break the cycle of poverty."

In Alameda County, the Shirley Eastman Children's Fund of Alameda County Social Services will distribute donated supplies to children in the foster-care system and those with parents in

CalWorks.

"A lot of kids come into foster care and they were just removed from their homes right away," explained Vanessa Anderson, program coordinator. "They have nothing. We don't have a lot of time to get their clothes and things."

More than 5,000 kids in Alameda County are in foster care. Another 17,000 have a parent in CalWorks, and many of those meet the Eastman Fund's eligibility criteria — those families left with \$50 per month or less after their rent and utilities are paid.

"You'd be surprised how many people fit into that category," Anderson says. "I don't know how these people survive."

Last year, our readers donated tens of thousands of dollars worth of supplies, enough to equip more than 1,500 students.

This year, we hope you'll help us reach even more kids.

Every donation makes a real difference. And every item goes to a kid right here in the East Bay, maybe even in your own neighborhood.

So please, help send our kids back to school the right way — full of hope, eager to take on the new year, and ready to learn.

Sara Steffens can be reached at 925-943-8048 or at ssteffens@cctimes.com.

HOW TO HELP

Project Ready to Learn seeks sets of new, not used, school supplies, each intended for one child. Choose one or more of the options below:

■ A pencil box full of supplies for an elementary school child: glue stick, safety scissors, crayons, colored pencils or magic markers, writing pencils, a ruler and several big pink erasers.

■ A Velcro or spiral organizer packed with supplies for a middle or high school student: pens, No. 2 pencils, markers or colored pencils, several notebooks or lots of loose-leaf paper, folders, a calendar or homework planner, a compass or protractor.

■ A solar-powered business calculator.

■ Reference books, such as a paperback dictionary or a single-volume encyclopedia.

■ A sturdy backpack, any style or color.

Label each set of supplies with the grade level of the child for which it is appropriate. You may also want to include gender.

("Fourth-grade boy," for instance, or "high school girl.")

The deadline for donations is 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 30.

Drop off supplies during regular weekday business hours at any of these offices:

■ Contra Costa Times, 2640 Shadelands Drive, Walnut Creek, 925-935-2525.

■ Ledger Dispatch, 1700 Cavallo Road, Antioch, 925-757-2525.

■ San Ramon Valley Times, 524 Hartz Ave., Danville, 925-837-4267.

■ Valley Times, 127 Spring St., Pleasanton, 925-462-4160.

■ West County Times, 4301 Lakeside Drive, Richmond, 510-758-8400.

■ Alameda Journal, 1516 Oak St., Alameda, 510-748-1666.

■ Concord Transcript, 1920 Mark Court, Suite 170, Concord, 925-682-6440.

■ Contra Costa Sun, 3435 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 206, Lafayette, 925-284-4444.

■ Montclair/Piedmonter, 1969 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, 510-339-3939.

Give money

Cash donations may be used to buy additional school supplies for kids in need. All are tax-deductible.

In Contra Costa County, check to VESTIA, the Volunteer Emergency Services in Action, and include "For school supplies" on the memo line. Mail to: VESTIA, 1000 Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553. For details, call 925-935-2525.

In Alameda County, check to Alameda County Volunteer Services, including school supplies. Mail to: Alameda County Volunteer Services, Attn: VESTIA, 1000 Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553. For details, call 925-935-2525.

Donate boxes

A set of sturdy boxes is needed for backpacks and other supplies. You may be able to find them at Cheryll Looney, 925-935-2525.

Opportunities for giving about

Many other programs and projects around the East Bay also help provide local children with backpacks, school supplies, even shoes and clothing for their return to the classroom.

Here are some organizations that welcome your donations:

Alameda

Alameda Education Foundation
510-337-7189

The Alameda Education Foundation operates a free supply store for teachers. The group seeks donations of paper products, school and office supplies, craft items, art materials, pet supplies, laboratory equipment and many other items. Call ahead for details or to arrange for drop-offs.

Alameda Boys & Girls Club

2050 Lincoln Ave., Alameda
George Phillips, 510-522-4900
Lined paper, pens, pencils and other supplies are needed to support the club's after-school tutoring and homework club. Also, the club distributes backpacks full of new school supplies to kids in need. To donate, drop off items or call ahead for more details.

Midway Shelter

510-357-0205, ext. 107
www.bfwo.org
Building Futures with Women and Children operates three shelters for women and children in emergency situations, including Alameda's Midway Shelter. Donations of backpacks, school supplies and toys are welcome; call the donations hotline and leave a message to arrange.

Xanthos, Inc.

2325 Clement Ave., Alameda
510-522-8363
Donations of new school supplies of all kinds are needed

for youth in the after-school program, high-school students who visit the health clinic, and teens staying at the Dream-Catcher Youth Shelter. Drop off between 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday, or 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday. Receipts for tax purposes are available.

Berkeley

Berkeley Youth Alternatives
Strawberry Creek Center
1255 Allston Way, Berkeley
510-845-9010

Backpacks and new school supplies are needed for at-risk Berkeley children ages 7 to 14 years old. Musical instruments, sports equipment and arts and crafts supplies also will help support the center's programs. Drop off items at the center or call ahead.

Oakland

Family Support Services of the Bay Area

401 Grand Ave., Suite 200, Oakland
Donna Moore or Rosalyn Ray, 510-834-4006

This agency works with at-risk children, including those in families with limited income. New sets of supplies are needed to equip those in grades K-12. Call ahead to arrange drop-off.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Oakland

8530 International Blvd., East Oakland, 510-638-1532
4801 Shattuck Ave., Temescal, 510-654-0307
920 24th Street, West Oak-

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3220 Sacramento, Berkeley
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a partnership of
California State Parks
East Bay Regional Park District
California State Coastal Conservancy

EASTSHORE PARK
REGIONAL WORKSHOP #4

THURSDAY • AUGUST 15, 2002 • 7:00 PM

Hs Lordship's Restaurant at the Berkeley Marina
This location is wheelchair accessible

The purpose of this workshop is to take public comment and answer questions on the preliminary General Plan and draft EIR.

The Plan and draft EIR are available on the Internet at www.eastshorestatepark.org or individuals may request one copy of the document, free of charge, with 24 hour notice from Kinko's, 5895 Christie Avenue, Emeryville, (510) 644-9701. These documents are also available at the Richmond, Albany, Berkeley (Main Branch), and Oakland Public Libraries.

The Eastshore Park extends along the eastern shoreline of San Francisco Bay from the Bay Bridge to Marina Bay in Richmond.

QUESTIONS? CALL 1-888-988-PARK OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.EASTSHORESTATEPARK.ORG

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Real Estate & Home

Advertising supplement to The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclarion, The Piedmonter

Friday, August 9, 2002

Section B

Weekly Home Sales Maintain your focus on the East Bay real estate scene [B4]
Open Home Guide See what's on sale in your neighborhood [B13]



ALEXANDRA SHEETS SAIKLEY

Craftsman-style home a labor of love

10 CAMELIA ST., BERKELEY \$399,000 OPEN NEXT SUNDAY, AUG. 18 FROM 2 TO 4 P.M.
 SEE STORY ON B 2



MONTCLAIR BETTER HOMES

Elegant, spacious contemporary

Built in 1994, the home at 914 Aquarius in Oakland, surpasses the imagination with its light-filled rooms. This elegant and spacious contemporary in Montclair is a very special home and will appeal to the

most discerning buyer. The home is close to Montclair Village, yet has bay views that include the Golden Gate and San Rafael bridges and Mount Tamalpais

See CONTEMPORARY, Page B2

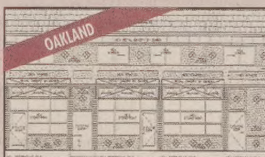
WELLS & BENNETT 531-7000 REALTORS

COMING SOON BY APPOINTMENT

OPEN HOUSE



MAJESTIC QUEEN ANN VICTORIAN
 Recently restored to the splendor and charm of the past. This generous sized 3+1/2 home has 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and a large front porch offering extended family privacy. Beautiful landscaping. 1st Open 8/18/02.
 Call Robbiano 531-7000 x286 or 531-4554



MIX-USE COMMERCIAL + 4 APARTMENTS
 Under going renovation. Make offer subject to completion of work. 2-Storefronts and 4-apartments. Updated electrical, plumbing, roof. Call for income statements. Owner will sell now for less w/o renovation.
 Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235 or 485-7235 \$995,000



1138 DRURY ROAD, OAKLAND
 Spectacular new contemporary with panoramic views. Entertain in style and comfort. 4BD/4.5BA, slate patios, gourmet kitchen. New, quality construction.
 Tracy Butler 531-7000 x232 \$1,899,000



1280 GRAND VIEW DRIVE, OAKLAND
 Incredible new Mediterranean masterpiece designed with elegance and style. Rich, warm color palette and the finest in finishes. Gorgeous yet supremely functional kitchen, knock-out master suite with "Roman's Spa" bath, three additional large bedrooms, home office, wine cellar and tasting room, enormous "party/entertainment suite". A must see!
 Mary Neuberger 531-7000 x251 or 485-7251 \$1,875,000



6830 THORNHILL DRIVE, OAKLAND
 Fabulous two-year old home Montclair. 3+BD/2.5BA. Formal living room with French doors to courtyard. Large kitchen/family room with deck and panoramic canyon views.
 David Hennigan 531-7000 x229 or 601-9540 \$879,000



LAKE MERRITT
 Duplex two 2BD units in a marvelous location. Hardwood floors have been refinished, new paint, new bathrooms & kitchens are updated. Enjoy Lake Merritt, shops & nearby restaurants. Enjoy freeway access (880 & 580) as well as excellent transportation. Must see open August 18th.
 Call Robbiano 531-7000 x292 or 485-7292



CONVENIENCE, SAFETY & SPACE
 What more do you want? This large 2BD/2BA Co-Op unit is over 1600sqft. It's on the top floor of the Lake Merritt building. The partial view of Lake Merritt & the Estuary, 24-hr. Security, indoor parking & location make this a must see!
 Kevin P. Kennedy 531-7000 x204 \$380,000



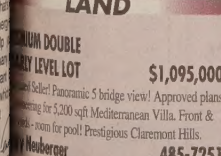
705 GELSTON PLACE
 Wonderful 3BD/2BA in El Cerrito Hills on quiet cul-de-sac! Panoramic view of Bay, G.G. Bridge, & S.F., large updated eat-in kitchen, fresh paint & new carpets, great closet space, 2-car attached garage w/interior access.
 Nicolette Bot 531-7000 x261 or 485-7261 \$515,000



2626 COLE STREET, OAKLAND
 Maxwell Pk - Spacious 3BD w/charm formal, dining room with built-ins, sunny eat-in kitchen, huge basement w/expansion potential, det. garage plus two driveways, sunny yard wideck & patio.
 Kate Phillips 531-7000 x228 or 485-7228 \$369,000



3101 BIRDSALL, OAKLAND
 Charming Maxwell Pk 2BD/2BA, refin. hardwood floors, bonus room off BD, formal dining room, large eat-in tile kitchen, great deck & gazebo, large attached garage w/interior access.
 Kate Phillips 531-7000 x228 or 485-7228 \$339,000



PRIME DOUBLE LOT
 Located in the heart of the city, this lot is perfect for a new development. Call Robbiano 531-7000 x292 or 485-7292



APPEALING TEMESCAL COTTAGE
 Charming two-bedroom cottage with hard and softwood floors, fireplace, built-ins, molding. Sunny breakfast room overlooking sweet yard. Convenient to shopping, transportation.
 Stan Hammond 531-7000 x246 \$350,000



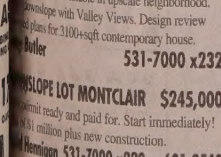
5924 HERZOG, OAKLAND
 Captivating Classic 40's Home. Spacious living room & dining area. Two bedrooms & a third bonus room, all three generous sized with great closets. Hardwood floors throughout. Tile bath, updated kitchen, fresh paint, garage with interior access.
 Stan Hammond 531-7000 x246 \$295,000



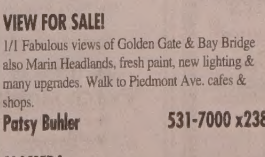
425 ORANGE STREET #314, OAKLAND
 2/2 Lovely light & bright unit on front of bldg. Nice view of the hills & trees. Large living room & dining area. FP in living room. New carpet & paint, many upgrades. A must see!
 Patsy Buhler 531-7000 x238 \$292,000



199 MONTECITO AVENUE, OAKLAND
 2/2 Great upper corner unit, lots of light, new carpet, lighting, fresh paint, newer appliances. Near private school, public transportation, easy freeway access.
 Patsy Buhler 531-7000 x238 \$265,000



VIEW FOR SALE!
 1/1 Fabulous views of Golden Gate & Bay Bridge also Marin Headlands, fresh paint, new lighting & many upgrades. Walk to Piedmont Ave. cafes & shops.
 Patsy Buhler 531-7000 x238



ALAMEDA ENJOY ALAMEDA LIVING!
 Sunny & bright 3BD/1BA-townhouse style home in the Woodstock cooperative. Lovely softwood floors. Newer washer/dryers, refrigerator, gas stove all stay. Quiet end unit. Fenced backyard for extra privacy plus a large storage shed in back.
 Claire Svitek 531-7000 x274 \$240,000



3536 72ND AVENUE, OAKLAND
 Sparkling two-bedroom with bonus room. New roof, new paint, carpet, refinished hardwood floor in living room. Move-in condition. Extra deep lot will delight gardeners.
 Stan Hammond 531-7000 x246 \$255,000



22 MOSS AVENUE #306, OAKLAND
 1/1 Decorator perfect, fireplace in living room, newer appliances, very light & overlooks lovely courtyard w/potted plants. Quiet & very secure bldg. No one directly above unit.
 Patsy Buhler 531-7000 x238 \$185,000



1451 LEIMERT BLVD., OAKLAND
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Berkeley Craftsman-style farmhouse a labor of love

BY ALEXANDRA SHEETS SAIKLEY
HOMESWNER

Long before we bought our Craftsman-style farmhouse in 1990, we were intrigued by this picturesque red house. Although badly rundown, its simplicity and appeal were obvious, and as an architect and an engineer (unmarried at the time), we felt up to the job of bringing it back to its original elegance. What we thought would take a matter of months ended up stretching out over 7 years — testing and solidifying our relationship along the way — as we rewired and replumbed, reroofed and refinished, ultimately repairing and restoring almost every inch of the house.

The center of our family life today, ruled by our two young sons, is the kitchen, which was originally dark and cramped. We knocked down a wall to an adjoining laundry room and punched out large windows overlooking the backyard, yielding lots more light and space.

Modern appliances, ambient lighting, and radiant floor heating made the eat-in kitchen functional and cozy. We restored an original wood cabinet with glass doors and a Douglas fir counter, and added ample new fir cabinets and a counter of beautiful handmade sea-green tiles.

Two new pairs of French doors open to a new deck and two patios in the backyard from the large dining/family room adjacent to the kitchen. Bamboo floors reflect light and further brighten an already sunny area. In the living room, we restored a coved ceiling, completely rebuilt the fireplace with a fascia from the era of the house, and refinished the original Douglas fir flooring.

We fixed up the bathroom with new tiles and a new pedestal sink to match the style of the older toilet and claw foot tub.

Three bedrooms upstairs have large closets and extra storage spaces carved out of the attic as well as new, double-paned windows. We created an office (or possible fourth bedroom) downstairs

by adding a wall to separate the space from the dining room.

The red house was completely overgrown with blackberries and crabgrass when we moved in. We cleared the land and brought in new soil. Climbing roses now frame the front walkway. Birches, pittosporums, and an oak surround the house, and flowers grow abundantly. The large, fenced back yard has become a whole world-in-itself for our young children.

Built in the 1900s, the house was owned by one family from the 1920s until the 1970s and was originally on a lot a few blocks from its current location. The family that owned it raised polo horses, and used adjacent open fields to graze them.

During World War II, industry filled in the area they were using for the animals, so the family moved the house to its current location, still countryside at the time.

One of the sons in the family returned from fighting in the war and had to call his parents to find where his home had gone.

We know this story because we met that son serendipitously just after we moved in. We had started work on the house and were trying to figure out how to get an old wall-hung sink off the bathroom wall.

It was stuck and we were stumped. Just then, an old man appeared outside. "Do you live here now?" he asked through the open bathroom window.

"I grew up here" he said, and told us his stories.

After a time one of us asked, "Well, do you have any idea how to get this sink off the wall?" He surveyed the problem and said, "I put in that sink myself, must have been back in '46..." and he remembered exactly how it was attached!

This man sold the house to an artist who used it for her studio, who sold it to a winemaker who raised his family here, who sold it to us. As we worked on it, we could see that many changes and additions had been made over time. From the stories we have heard, it is clear



PHOTOS BY ALEXANDRA SHEETS SAIKLEY

TENDER, LOVING CARE is evident at 809 Camelia St. in the before (above) and after (below) photos shown here.



that our home has always been well loved.

The red house has witnessed many changes in the neighborhood over the years, from open fields to industry, with houses of various eras and businesses mixed in along the way. There are old-time residents here for decades; many architects, graphic artists, potters, and other artisans; and an increasing number of young families moving in.

A small winery next door makes outstanding wine and has let us help with the crush. Picante Mexican Restaurant around the corner and other local businesses bring a lot of life to the neighborhood.

As the demands of job location and expanding family necessitate a move for us, we feel secure that we have preserved what was always best in the house and

The home at 809 Camelia St. in Berkeley, offered at \$399,000, will be open next Sunday, Aug. 18 from 2 to 4 p.m.

equipped it for a long happy future.

The home at 809 Camelia St. in Berkeley, offered at \$399,000, will be open next Sunday, Aug. 18 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Take a photo tour at www.johnandjudith.com. To learn more, call John and Judith Ratcliffe at The GRUBB Co. 510-652-2133, ext 429.



State-of-the-art bungalow

VITAL STATISTICS

What: Charming bungalow at 4008 LaCresta in Oakland view district.

Bedrooms: Three

Bathroom: Two

Features: Master suite with French doors to back porch with built-in cabinets; living room with fireplace and garage. The home includes a chef's kitchen with granite and a landscaped yard. The home was lovingly maintained in 1999 to include a new foundation, copper plumbing wiring. A new drainage system and new deck was added home last year.

Price: \$599,000

Agent: Nancy Hoover of Red Oak Realty at 510-288-1234

Open House: This Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m.

Are you planning to remodel?

■ Thursday's free seminar will show you how to make it a success

If you or someone you know is considering a professional remodel, Your Remodel: How To Make It A Success! can show you how to maximize the value and rewards of your project as well as minimize frustration. This seminar will be held in Orinda.

Paul Winans of Winans Construction, Inc. will cover such topics as pre-design and zoning, understanding the design process, tips for setting a realistic budget during a period of ever-increasing costs, choosing and working with a professional contractor, and the specific steps you can take to en-

sure that your project

as successful as you want. A recipient of national and national awards, Winans Construction is a 24-year-old company specializing in remodeling in the East Bay. Paul and Nina Winans are members of the National Association of Remodelers. Many seminars to be held over the past several years. The seminar will be held in Orinda. The seminar will be held in Orinda. The seminar will be held in Orinda.

The seminar will be held in Orinda. The seminar will be held in Orinda. The seminar will be held in Orinda. The seminar will be held in Orinda. The seminar will be held in Orinda.

State-wide housing affordability continues downward slide

■ Percentage of households able to purchase median-priced home slipped 5 points in June

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

The percentage of households in California able to afford a median-priced home decreased by 5 percentage points in June compared to a year ago, according to a report released today by the California Association of Realtors (C.A.R.).

The June 2002 Housing Affordability Index (HAI) stood at 27 percent, down 5 points from 32 percent in June 2001, according to C.A.R. The June HAI slipped a single percentage point from May 2002, when it stood at 28 percent.

At 66 percent, the High Desert was the most affordable region in the state, followed by Riverside-San Bernardino and Sacramento, both at 43 percent. Monterey was the least affordable region in the state at 15 percent, followed by Northern Wine Country (16 percent), the San Francisco Bay Area (17 percent) and Santa Barbara (18 percent).

C.A.R.'s monthly housing affordability index measures the percentage of households that can afford to purchase a median-priced home in California.

C.A.R. also reports housing affordability indexes for regions and select counties within the state. The index is the most fundamental measure of housing well-being in the state.

Headquartered in Los Angeles, the California Association of Realtors (<http://www.car.org>) is one of the largest state trade organizations in the United States, with more than 100,000 members dedicated to the advancement of professionalism in real estate.

In June 2001, 32 percent of Californians could afford a median-priced single-family residence. The latest California Association of Realtors' figures show that in June 2002 that number slipped to 27 percent.

Contemporary

FROM PAGE B1

and wooded valley vistas from almost every room. This roomy home offers approximately 4,800 square feet of wonderfully planned spaces with soaring cathedral ceilings in most rooms.

Built with quality and custom finishes throughout, most rooms are complemented by palatial windows. A broad, formal, but open, stairway creates an exciting and dramatic entry to the main level.

At the very top of the stairway is an observation platform located both inside and outdoors to take best advantage of the great views.

A state-of-the-art eat-in kitchen

and adjacent family room, as well as formal dining room open out through French doors to a large patio and level grassy area for wonderful outdoor living.

This is a rare find in a hillside home with such extraordinary views. Also on this level is a gorgeous master suite with fireplace opening through to the master bath, and an office, both with those incredible views. A second master suite and two bedrooms plus second family room and huge billiard room offer additional incredible space.

Offered at \$1,399,000, the home is listed by Caroline Peters of Montclair Better Homes. Call her at 510-339-8400 or 510-869-5106 for a private showing.

To contact the real estate editor, call 510-748-1655 or e-mail devanosky@cctimes.com

Real Estate & Home

A Weekly Publication of
Hills Newspapers

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JUST LISTED:
TWO WONDERFUL HOUSES
SIDE-BY-SIDE IN EL CERRITO
917 ELM STREET



\$379,000

Open the door to a large sun filled living/dining room with fireplace and hardwood floors. Eat-in kitchen with new tile floors. Attached garage, private fenced backyard with patio and garden. 5000 sq. ft. lot.

921 ELM STREET



\$399,000

Charming 3-bedroom home with fireplace, updated bath, built-in storage & bookshelves. Updated kitchen with Wedgwood stove. Carpets over hardwood floors. Attached garage, private fenced backyard with covered patio. 5000 sq. ft. lot.

JANICE MAUPIN
848-1950 Ext. 246

THORNWALL
Properties



ALBANY CONTEMPORARY IN A SERENE SETTING

1088 Tevlin Street

OPEN AUGUST 11 and 18, 2-4:30. This rare contemporary is located on a quiet cul-de-sac in Terrace Park. There is a welcoming feeling of peace and privacy created by the dramatic interior soaring ceilings, and windows that look out onto greenery. French doors open to a patio and garden adjoining a beautifully landscaped area.

- 3 bedrooms and 2½ baths
- 2 car garage with interior access

Offered at \$545,000

CELIA CONCUS
510.527.0211

New Listing!
OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2-4:30



623 Santa Fe Avenue, Albany

Delightful tri-level English home on tree-lined street. Recent interior paint, refinished hardwood floors and new carpet. Alluring original charm and elegance. 4BR/2.5BA, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen. Laundry room, plus room & hall down. Lounging area upstairs. Level rear yard with fruit trees. Detached garage with work area.

Offered at \$635,000

Lee Jacobson, CRS
Senior Sales Consultant
(510) 338-1309



Insurance companies only insure themselves

Number 402 in a series of true stories in real estate

For years I've suspected that the insurance companies own the world. Now I know their game is simple: collect and never pay. A little point in filing a claim does it get you anything? They raise your premiums to get their money back.

We got the Big Computer Sky now. Woe betide you if you have too many claims, especially water damage. Once you had a water claim, your house was pretty much cooked. Your insurance company may not cancel you, but if you have a claim involving water, your sale may be going south. Your sale may be going south in every other respect, but your agent will get a claim.

Well, it isn't like that anymore, and not only with homeowner's insurance. The same disappointing situation applies, far too often, to car insurance and health insurance, too. A couple of years ago, I was backing my car out of a parking space in a lot when another car hit mine. I called my insurance agent to inquire about the wisdom of filing a claim. "Oh sure, let's file a claim," I was told, and so I did.

The company did pay (about \$2500), then they raised my premiums enough to get their money back over the next 3 years. "That's just the way we do it," I was told when I asked. "After 3 years, if you have no other losses, your premiums will go back to normal."

Oh sure. How about medical insurance? I remember when I worked at jobs where medical insurance for me and for my family was paid by my employer. The cost was not huge,

coverage his fine old company, around since practically the beginning of time, would provide for you. "Peace of mind" was an oft used phrase. If a tree blew down on your house, a visitor fell down your front steps or, heaven forbid, a tornado blew the entire house away, you would be made completely whole



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True Experiences

again by the fine old insurance company. That's why you paid premiums.

But things have gotten out of hand — and terribly expensive — on so many fronts. As far as insurance is concerned, it appears to me that we are going to have to adjust our thinking. Insurance these days probably cannot be looked to as our saving grace except in times of really big disaster. For anything smaller, we will have to deal with the problem ourselves.

Anet Tarpo and Pat Talbert are licensed real estate agents who specialize in single family houses. They also offer hourly real estate consulting and coaching. They can be reached by e-mail at patanet@tarpoandtalbert.com or by phone at 510-653-2050.

maybe \$200 a month. Boy, are those days over. My own medical insurance, paid by me, is now \$658 per month. I pay an additional \$70 per month for each of my children, yet when we see our doctors for a routine office visit, I pay \$30 and the insurance pays only \$26.

I recently added up all of the insurance I buy every year — car, health, homeowner's and life — and found that I pay 30 percent of what I make to have insurance. Except for health insurance against which I do file claims, I don't feel that I can utilize any other insurance benefits. It's just too expensive.

Yeah, I know, everyone needs to make a buck. This includes doctors, auto body workers, the people who mop up the water after a flood, and also the insurance companies. Otherwise they wouldn't be in the business.

But things have gotten out of hand — and terribly expensive — on so many fronts. As far as insurance is concerned, it appears to me that we are going to have to adjust our thinking. Insurance these days probably cannot be looked to as our saving grace except in times of really big disaster. For anything smaller, we will have to deal with the problem ourselves.

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Please recycle.

Lois's real estate hints



LOIS HARRIS, REALTOR

Selling "As Is"? That's fine, especially in this market. Still, you and your buyers need to know what the "As Is," is. You don't want to be caught off guard by an unexpected problem while in the middle of negotiations. Have your inspections and have them early. That's the way to sell.

Lois can be reached at the Grand Lake office of Prudential California Realty, 510-834-2010; fax 510-834-3841; voice mail 510-287-2521; e-mail Lois.Harris@PruWeb.com.

Fixer-uppers not for everyone

■ For some buyers, they can be a cost-effective solution to housing needs

INMAN NEWS FEATURES

Many buyers would rather continue to live where they are than buy a fixer-upper. Renovating a home is a lot of work, and the work can disrupt your life. Also, it's often hard to know in advance how much the project will ultimately cost. But for some buyers, buying a fixer-upper can be a cost-effective solution to their housing needs.

Properties that need a lot of work are usually offered for sale at a discounted price. If you're attempting to buy into a high demand, high priced neighborhood, a fixer at a reduced price could represent a prime opportunity.

Just make sure that you know

what you're getting into before you complete the purchase. Have the property inspected by qualified professionals, and get estimates from reliable contractors for necessary repair work. Fixer-uppers usually sell at a discount because of deferred maintenance and functional obsolescence. In an extreme case, repairs can run in the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Recently a couple with two small children made an offer to buy a fixer-upper in Piedmont, a city with an excellent public school system. The demand for homes in Piedmont is currently so high that some listings in good condition sell for significantly over the asking price, sometimes with as many as 10 and 11 offers.

This Piedmont fixer presented an opportunity to buy at an affordable price. The buyers plan to live



DIAN HYMER
House Hunting

in the property in its present condition while they save money for an extensive renovation.

House hunting tip: The couple in the above example was methodical in their approach to purchasing their Piedmont fixer. They were preapproved for a mortgage so they knew what price they could afford to buy. They studied comparable sales information. Fortunately, they had seen most of these properties.

They had experience renovating their current home, so they were

See HYMER, Page B8

Heartwarming Bungalow

Open Sunday, 2-5 p.m.



307 Carmel Avenue, El Cerrito

Stroll to Fatapple's or E.C. BART from this charming 2 bedroom, 1 bath home with formal dining, pretty gardens, deck & fenced back yard in great neighborhood.

\$425,000

Call Deborah:
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510-527-3060



New Listing

OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2-4:30PM



13463 Skyline Blvd., Oakland

Spacious, 4,400+ sq. ft. ranch home on gorgeous, mostly level 1.47± acre parcel. Home needs renovation. 3++BR/2+BA, 2 family rooms, pool.



Offered at \$950,000

Ann Nichols
Senior Sales Associate
(510) 338-1319



just ask our clients

pacunion.com

New Townhome Listing in Marina Bay!

Open 2-4pm Sunday
Offered at \$346,000



JUST LISTED - 2203 Sea Shell Dr 2 bed/2.5 bath



JUST SOLD - 2150 Sand Dollar Dr 3 bed/3 bath

Competing for homes in Oakland and Berkeley isn't easy. That's why many buyers have expanded their search to undiscovered areas like Marina Bay, Richmond. Bayfront townhomes feature the very best in luxury, privacy and access to parks, Marina and bay trails. Take the Marina Bay Pkwy Exit off I-580 and follow the signs.

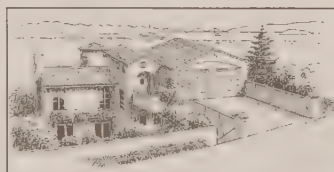
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Gallagher & Lindsey, (877)865-2279



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North Berkeley

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625 EUCLID AVENUE, BERKELEY

3 Bedrooms, 1 1/2 Baths, Golden Gate Views! Offered at \$619,000



3 CAPTAIN DRIVE #313, EMERYVILLE

1 Bedroom, 1 Bath, Hardwood Floors! Offered at \$279,000



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WEEKLY SALES

ALAMEDA

3445 Dutchcap Ln - \$396,000
301 Fair Haven Rd - \$693,000
1130 Fountain St - \$498,000
1872 Gresham Dr - \$470,000
215 Jackson Pl - \$575,000
325 Kitty Hawk #113 - \$265,000
1906 Lafayette St - \$400,000
402 Laguna Ln - \$435,000
130 Lawrence Rd - \$654,000
558 Lincoln Av - \$310,000
3034 Linda Vista - \$410,000
1086 Melrose Av - \$414,500
3549 Norman Ln - \$450,000
2106 North Otis Dr - \$308,000
27 Parodi Ct - \$545,000
106 Purcell Dr - \$621,000
2221 San Jose #A - \$615,000
1717 St. Charles St - \$460,000

ALBANY

1509 Albany Tr - \$395,000
1221 Brighton Av #9 - \$270,000
715 Carmel Av - \$500,000
930 Carmel Av - \$688,000
622 Cornell Av - \$290,000
824 Jackson St - \$411,500
933 Key Route #A1 - \$350,000
545 Pierce St #3002 - \$320,000
535 Pierce St #5314 - \$162,500
555 Pierce St #627 - \$245,000
722 Ramona Av - \$558,000
419 Stannage Av - \$496,000

BERKELEY

2406 10th St #A - \$389,000
2081 Bonar St - \$454,000
1690 Capistrano Av - \$575,000
1655 Chestnut St - \$310,000
1030 Delaware #B - \$310,000
1060 Euclid Av - \$500,000
161 Forest Ln - \$552,000
2404 Grant St - \$451,000
1240 Haskell St - \$470,000
80 Hazel Rd - \$872,000
1523 Hearst Av - \$465,000
630 Hilldale Av - \$500,000
928 Hilldale Av - \$965,000
1553 La Vereda Rd - \$615,000
1707 MLK Jr Wy - \$667,000
1218 Masonic Av - \$385,000
1533 Milvia St - \$660,000
2670 Parker St - \$627,000
1534 Russell St - \$351,000

1338 Santa Fe Av - \$600,000
3 The Shortcut - \$595,000
1992 Yosemite Rd - \$558,500

EL CERRITO

2620 Arlington Bl - \$773,000
437 Ashbury Av - \$465,000
5624 Barrett Av - \$445,000
2270 Carquinez Av - \$475,000
777 Colusa Av - \$605,000
5518 MacDonald Av - \$480,000
1402 Naville St - \$980,000
6923 Wilson Wy - \$550,000

EL SOBRANTE

211 Amend Ct - \$535,000
5558 Amend Rd - \$451,000
28 La Honda Ct - \$470,000
3851 Linden Ln - \$230,000
773 Manor Rd - \$250,000

EMERYVILLE

1056 48th St #B - \$143,500
3 Captain Dr #D205 - \$242,500
4720 Salem St - \$390,000

KENSINGTON

257 Arlington Av - \$550,000
24 Eldridge Ct - \$571,000
109 Kenyon Av - \$525,000

OAKLAND

1901 105th Av - \$320,000
1288 107th Av - \$255,000
2141 21st Av - \$280,000
2332 23rd Av - \$235,000
2460 26th Av - \$365,000
2486 26th Av - \$250,000
878 52nd Av - \$440,000
1285 58th Av - \$215,000
1018 59th St - \$240,000
1939 5th Av - \$233,000
1363 60th Av - \$220,000
734 60th St - \$200,000
2126 62nd Av - \$220,000
2221 66th Av - \$230,000
2424 66th Av - \$265,000
1635 67th Av - \$225,000
2468 67th Av - \$246,000
1088 67th St - \$320,000
2515 80th Av - \$260,000
1006 83rd Av - \$186,500
1141 86th Av - \$270,000

1248 90th Av - \$165,000
2349 90th Av - \$230,500
2207 92nd Av - \$259,500
398 Adams #306 - \$310,000
3929 Ardley Av - \$463,000
5901 Ascot Dr - \$750,000
6423 Ascot Dr - \$605,000
6515 Ascot Dr - \$647,000
3717 Balfour Av - \$735,000
5042 Bancroft Av - \$265,000
1154 Bayview Av - \$342,000
565 Bellevue #1203 - \$320,000
4671 Benevides Av - \$533,000
1801 Brentwood Rd - \$467,500
9422 C St - \$238,000
280 Caldecott #103 - \$367,000
280 Caldecott #112 - \$355,000
260 Caldecott #126 - \$237,000
320 Caldecott #219 - \$290,000
10820 Cameron Av - \$564,000
10951 Cameron Av - \$505,000
307 Catron Dr - \$255,000
2885 Chelsea Dr - \$610,000
3 Clarewood Mall - \$444,000
5226 Cole St - \$280,000
28 Contra Costa Pl - \$785,000
5734 Country Club Dr - \$927,500
3263 Dakota St #1 - \$235,000
3045 Dakota St - \$392,000
4531 Davenport Av - \$428,500
3262 Davis St - \$250,000
3759 Delmont Av - \$260,000
3938 Delmont Av - \$205,000
100 Duncan Wy - \$620,000
1333 East 23rd St - \$270,000
2527 East 24th St - \$325,000
4981 Fairfax Av - \$262,000
1724 Filbert St - \$350,000
801 Franklin #320 - \$235,000
3912 Fruitvale Av - \$375,000
6641 Glen Oaks Wy - \$690,000
1920 Gouldin Rd - \$529,000
3918 Greenwood - \$610,000

4101 Greenwood - \$585,000
7401 Holly St - \$259,000
304 Hunter Av - \$265,000
4061 Huntington St - \$230,000
49 Ironwood - \$485,000
3169 Kingsland Av - \$410,000
9872 Koford Rd - \$240,000
6536 Liggett Dr - \$957,000
6708 Liggett Dr - \$602,000
87 Marlow Dr - \$354,000
5145 Masonic Av - \$850,000
3519 Meadow St - \$252,000
1944 Melvin Rd - \$625,000
5825 Merriewood - \$603,000
3006 Modesto Av - \$428,000
3630 Monterey Bl - \$581,000
5575 Moraga Av - \$810,000
1300 Mountain Bl - \$850,000
4112 Norton Av - \$610,000
11003 Novelda Dr - \$245,000
242 Oakland Av - \$385,000
10 Overlake Ct - \$610,000
1104 Peralta St - \$270,000
1421 Peralta St - \$335,000
728 Peralta St - \$345,000
10008 Pippin St - \$255,000
9943 Plymouth St - \$237,000
3021 Richmond Bl - \$399,000
3536 Robinson Dr - \$616,000
5898 Romany Rd - \$1,150,000
363 Santa Clara Av - \$379,000
8641 Seneca St - \$310,000
5104 Shafer Av - \$470,000
3758 Silverwood - \$506,500
51 Spy Glass Hill - \$440,000
7932 Sterling Dr - \$375,000
3419 Suter St - \$329,000
3425 Suter St - \$299,000
417 Taurus Av - \$513,000
57 Teralynn Ct - \$432,000
5443 Thomas Av - \$640,000

See SALES, Page B5

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New Rockridge Listing

Open Sunday - August 11th - 2-4



5856 Virmar Ave., Oakland

Conveniently located in the Upper Rockridge neighborhood, this 4-BR, 2-BA home has a lot of light, a remodeled eat-in kitchen, a family room, and a sweet, level-out yard with mature fruit trees. Only minutes to Rockridge BART. Call Jan Fougner, Broker.

\$675,000.

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Call the Mortgage Lender you can trust

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885 Island Drive, Alameda

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Oakland

\$38,880 Hillmont Dr. Small lot with water view! Approx. 4400 sq. ft. Donnaluci 510-814-4826

\$249,000 10315 Foothill Blvd. 2 unit fixer, contractors special! Nice neighborhood close to Oakland Zoo. Attached garage, separate meters, good size backyard. Martina 510-814-4828

\$268,000 6415 Flora St. OPEN SUN 2-4. Cozy 3 bd, 2 ba Cottage! Perfect starter home. Updated kitchen & baths. Kathy 510-814-4706

\$325,000 1366 34th St. Live-work opportunity in loft-style converted Victorian home. 2 units. Includes legal home. Used residential or commercial. Kathy 510-814-4706

\$329,000 3204 Ette St. Hillside border, 3 bd 3 ba, new kitchen, tile floors, hardwood floors, attached garage. Kathy 510-814-4706

\$350,000 Mountain View Ave. Lot with a View! Private and secluded. Upscale homes in area. Janice 510-814-4848

\$359,000 1464, 34th St. 3 new lots near Emeryville border. A lot of potential. Open floor plan. Call Kathy 510-814-4706

\$395,000 3202 Ette St. On Emeryville border, 3 bd 3 ba, new kitchen, tile floors, hardwood floors, attached garage. Kathy 510-814-4706

\$435,000 1934 Norm St. 4. Large single level ranch with family room, spacious kitchen. Shirley (510) 814-4826

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Orinda

\$99,000 El Toyon! One of the best! Lot with view of survey complete, geotech-soils report, motivated seller. Rusty 7413

\$249,000 1400 Cypress bedroom, 2 bath corner BART, bus, and shopping in courtyard, clubhouse. Elevators. 1st floor 1 ba unit with full bath. Tere 510-814-4840

\$290,000 14015 Outrigger of Monarch bay golf course. 1 ba unit with full bath. Tere 510-814-4840

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OPEN SUN. 2-4



5154 CARRIAGE DR.

El Sobrante/Richmond

\$505,000

4 beds, 3 baths, 3 car garage,

2483 sq. ft. View.

Bus to Orinda BART.

Tilden golf 15 min. away.

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Point Richmond Hidden Treasure

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 p.m.



77 Vine Ave., Pt. Richmond

Walk to the village from this charming 2 bedroom, 2 bath very special home. Enjoy beautiful gardens, hidden patios, upgraded interiors, plus a new office/study, and Bay views!

\$569,000

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Photo Tour: www.thornwallproperties.com

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OAKLAND

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4. 444 MERRITT AVE. #102 CHINA HILL. 3+ bedrooms, 2 full baths. Lots & lots of room. Walk to Lake Shore shopping. Low dues. Make offer. \$375,000. Virtual tour at www.RealEstate.com. Honesty & Diligence. Keko McDonald, 510-522-4449.

1822 FRUITVALE AVE. LOTS OF POTENTIAL. 4 units on a large lot and parking in rear. Can easily be converted to large duplex or single family. Moon Tam, 510-747-1620.

1528 + 79TH AVE. CLASSIC BUNGALOW. Clean this classic contemporary with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths plus a garage. \$276,500. Mary Ann Herbert, 1-800-523-9424.

1362 E. 27th. INVESTMENT PROPERTY. PRICE REDUCED \$75,000. 5 1 bedroom 1 unit with a detached 3 bedroom house, plus 4 garages! Good area with potential, owner may carry. \$750,000. Mary Ann Herbert, 510-568-2040. Sharon Greene, 510-523-9421.

SAN FRANCISCO

300 CHANNEL ST. FLOAT HOME. Mission Bay area, 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, laundry. Wonderful view, walk to Pacific Bell. \$449,000 + monthly berth rent. David McIntyre, 510-748-1111.

RUSSIAN RIVER

11046 GOLF COURT RD., MONTE RIO. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath home on the golf course with a game room and full basement. \$395,000. Darlene Gardner, 510-748-1104.

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BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY. Store on Main Street in Gaerneville with approximately 7000 sqft. Darlene Gardner, 510-748-1104.

RICHMOND

OPEN SUNDAY 1:30-4. 1900 WESTERN DR. #4-39. FLOAT HOME WITH WATER VIEW. 1 bedroom, 1 bath and concrete hall. \$165,000. David McIntyre, 510-748-1111.

OPEN SUNDAY 1:30-4. 1900 WESTERN DR. #6-3. REALLY COOL. PLACE 2 bedroom, 1 bath floor home with extraordinary water view. \$225,000. David McIntyre, 510-748-1111.

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4. 2203 SEA SHELL DR. PRISTINE YERBA BUENA MODEL. 2 story living with 2 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, pool & sauna. Just steps from Bay trails & Marina. Troy Straten, 510-748-1125.

SAN LEANDRO

1627 148th AVE. ADORABLE COTTAGE. Wonderful kitchen, formal dining, 2 bedrooms, plus den. Big yard with cute little doll house for adults. \$350,000. Call Ruth Mason, 510-748-1101.

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4. 1992 EVERGREEN AVE. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with a fireplace in the living room and a formal dining room. 2 separate buildings in the back yard and a 2 car garage. \$425,000. Ron Beng, 510-748-1110.

12951 NEPTUNE DR. ON SAN LEANDRO BAY. Stately vintage home that can accommodate extended family with 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, all electric kitchen, formal living & dining rooms, a great room and a family room. \$750,000. Ruth Mason, 510-748-1101.

Moon Tam 747-1620

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COMING SOON. Most desired location and style: top floor "Piedmont" model with quiet and peaceful outlook. Cathedral ceilings, two patios, mirrored wall in master suite, walk-in closets, luxury amenities!

Offered at \$389,000

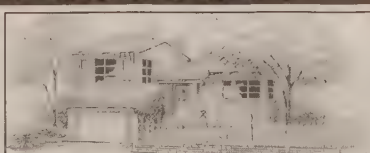
TRICIA SWIFT

OFFICE: 339.0400/333

tsswift@grubbco.com

GRUBBCO.COM

BAY AREA PROPERTIES



Open House, Sunday 2-4 "Magnolia Cottage"

Kensington

435 Berkeley Park Boulevard

This adorable split-level sits on a quiet tree-lined street just off of Colusa Circle. The delightful details include a vaulted living room with fireplace, eat-in kitchen, two bedrooms, an updated bath, and non-conforming plus space. The wood floors have been refinished and it's newly painted inside and out. The lush yard and patio of this creek-side cottage complete the charm. Easy for commuters and those seeking a warm neighborhood. \$399,000

Open House, Sunday 2-5 * El Cerrito Hills VIEWS!

2349 Carquinez Avenue

Lots of room and incredible views! This three bedroom, two bath house sits in the El Cerrito Hills overlooking the bay. It has two fireplaces, refinished hardwood floors, and large living areas with wide-open views of the bay. The family room, exercise room with Jacuzzi, and backyard with multi-level decks make this a wonderful place to live. \$505,000

524 East 21st, Four Unit Beauty, Oakland

SALES

BERKELEY

1000 Human Av - \$299,000
1000 Human View Rd - \$607,000
1000 Webster St - \$530,000
1000 Webster St - \$259,000
1000 Webster St - \$203 - \$176,000
1000 Webster St - \$469,000
1000 Webster St - \$725,000
1000 Webster St - \$420,000

PACIFIC UNION

1000 Hillside Ct - \$1,225,000
1000 Hillside Ct - \$2,600,000
1000 Hillside Ct - \$1,243,000
1000 Hillside Ct - \$1,405,000
1000 Hillside Ct - \$1,325,000

ALAMEDA

1000 13th St - \$216,000
1000 13th St - \$255,000
1000 13th St - \$336,000
1000 13th St - \$297,000
1000 13th St - \$295,000
1000 13th St - \$315,000
1000 13th St - \$295,000
1000 13th St - \$537,500
1000 13th St - \$164,000
1000 13th St - \$500,000
1000 13th St - \$303,000
1000 13th St - \$370,000
1000 13th St - \$370,000
1000 13th St - \$425,000
1000 13th St - \$413,000

5400 Lenora Rd - \$495,000
1001 Lupine Ct - \$361,000
2927 Maricopa Av - \$270,000
1207 Melville #213 - \$210,000
4417 Nevin Av - \$246,000
700 Payne Dr - \$200,000
1000 Ridgeview Dr - \$604,500
1001 Ridgeview Dr - \$577,000
4020 Roosevelt Av - \$404,000
1433 San Joaquin St - \$324,000
1370 Santa Clara St - \$387,500
73 Seagull Dr - \$486,000
5411 Solano Av - \$285,000
335 South 13th St - \$150,000
108 South 20th St - \$180,000
245 Vernon Av - \$229,000
800 Virginia Av - \$189,000
3681 West Ct - \$161,000
4516 Whitecliff Wy - \$400,000

SAN LEANDRO

207 Accolade Dr - \$355,000
312 Accolade Dr - \$403,500
388 Alvarado St - \$522,000
13880 Aurora Dr - \$345,000
1035 Avon Av - \$305,000
15200 Beatty St - \$415,000
1355 Begier Av - \$442,500
292 Berk Av - \$481,000
2503 Bermuda Av - \$350,000
15968 Carolyn St - \$341,000
571 Cascade Rd - \$310,000
1769 Cedar Av - \$345,000
199 Cherrywood Av - \$400,000
279 Durand Av - \$325,000
16657 Elbie St - \$303,000
15150 Flying Mist Rd - \$635,000

866 Fulton Av - \$375,000
2507 Galleon Pl - \$329,000
333 Herma Ct - \$310,000
15059 Hesperian #38 - \$166,000
1079 Lee Av - \$472,500
2460 Marina Bl - \$439,000
355 Maud Av - \$318,000
15369 Mendocino St - \$385,000
2220 Oceanside Wy - \$490,000
846 Odonnell Av - \$340,000
14025 Reed Av - \$270,000
16319 Ria Dr - \$320,000
1556 Santa Rosa St - \$405,000
237 Sunnyside Dr - \$352,000
2029 Trombas Av - \$430,000
14856 Wake Av - \$360,000
2077 Washington #214 - \$236,000
1568 Wayne Av - \$319,000
3841 Wedgewood #54 - \$255,000
2128 W. Ave. 133rd - \$389,000

LOWEST PRICE: \$265,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$693,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$473,306

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 12
LOWEST PRICE: \$162,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$688,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$390,500

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 22
LOWEST PRICE: \$310,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$965,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$539,614

EL CERRILLO

TOTAL SALES: 8
LOWEST PRICE: \$445,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$980,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$596,625

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST PRICE: \$230,000

HIGHEST PRICE: \$535,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$451,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$387,200

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 3
LOWEST PRICE: \$143,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$390,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$242,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$258,667

KENNESAW

TOTAL SALES: 3
LOWEST PRICE: \$525,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$571,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$550,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$548,667

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 116
LOWEST PRICE: \$165,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,150,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$354,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$414,823

PIEDMONT

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST PRICE: \$1,225,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$2,600,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$1,325,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$1,559,600

RICINO

TOTAL SALES: 34
LOWEST PRICE: \$150,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$604,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$331,485

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 36
LOWEST PRICE: \$166,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$635,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$368,014

Please recycle.

By the numbers

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 18

6040 Chabot



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Julie Nachtwey

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2067 BONAR ST. BERKELEY \$469,000
Complete rehab in convenient location. Walk to everything and take public transportation to everywhere. 1BD/2BA, deck plus detached carport/overage. Call right away!

ALAMEDA \$319,500
Super Condominium. Bought after 1BD/2BA St. Francis made. Master suite w/ Nookroom. Attached garage. Many amenities incl. sauna, gym, pool, etc. A real must see!

BERKELEY \$469,000
Light & Cheerful 3+BD, upper floor plan, many upgrades throughout. Master suite, w/ study area. Private patio & many plants/flowers. 2-car garage. Call right away!

OAKLAND \$269,000
Condominium. Immaculate shows like new. 1BD/1BA unit. Wooded Oakland Hills location, yet close to LCB Berkeley, & Hwy. 24. Must see today. Call today!

Open Sunday

BERKELEY HILLS \$995,000
1000 GRAND VIEW DR. (Open 2-4:30)
1000 GRAND VIEW DR. Exquisite, architect designed home of exceptional quality. Gourmet kitchen, rm to deck. Extra large lot. Nancy Noman x1373

OAKLAND HILLS \$950,000
1000 SKYLINE BLVD. (Open 2-4:30)
1000 SKYLINE BLVD. Listing! Spacious 4400+sf ranch home on gorgeous, mostly level parcel. 4BR/2.5BA, 2 family rooms, pool. Home needs renovation. Ann Nichols x1319

BERKELEY \$795,000
1000 SAN LUIS RD. (Open 2-4:30)
1000 SAN LUIS RD. Constructed Golden Gate view, 4BR including in-law unit, 3BA, formal dining room, office & 1-car garage. Carla Gillingham x1367

COLLEEN HIGHLANDS \$795,000
1000 SCHOONER HILL (Open 2-4:30)
1000 SCHOONER HILL. 3BR/2.5BA, townhouse in prime location. SF/GG views & custom finishes. Formal dining room, eat-in kitchen & large entry patio. Charlotte Boyle x1370

BERKELEY \$775,000
1000 WOODMONT AVE. (Open 2-4)
1000 WOODMONT AVE. Warm light filled Traditional w/ 3BR/2BA. Near Tilden Park. Beautiful view, pretty private garden, nicely landscaped. Leslie Avant x1341

ALBANY CREEK \$629,950
1000 HARVARD WAY (Open 1-4)
1000 HARVARD WAY. Listing! Lovely all level updated ranch home on approximately .25 acre lot. 3BR/2.5BA, spacious family & living rooms, 2 full kitchens & baths. Private patio, landscaped gardens. Roselle Woods x1324

PACIFIC UNION

510.339.6460

www.pacunion.com

Open Sunday

ALBANY \$635,000
1000 SANTA FE AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
1000 SANTA FE AVE. New Listing! Delightful tri-level English home on tree-lined street. 4BR/2.5BA, formal dining, eat-in kitchen. Recent interior paint & new carpet. Level yard. Detached garage w/work area. Lee Jacobson x1309

OAKMORE \$610,000
1000 LYMAN RD. (Open 2-4:30)
1000 LYMAN RD. Wonderful English Tudor. Remodeled kitchen, large level yard. 2+BR/1+BA. Francis Heath x1357

REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$569,000
1000 SELKIRK ST. (Open 2-4:30)
1000 SELKIRK ST. Gorgeous split-level home w/private rear yard. 2BR/1BA on upper level & 1BR/1BA on main level. Hardwood floors throughout, FDR, remodeled kitchen & attached garage. Diane Earl McCan x1352

PIEDMONT \$550,000
1000 OLIVE AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
1000 OLIVE AVE. 3BR/1.5BA home near Piedmont & Grand Aves. Level yard, view of Rose Garden. FDR, eat-in kitchen, basement workshop space & office. 2-car garage. Lee Jacobson x1309

ROCKRIDGE \$525,000
1000 CLAREWOOD LN. (Open 2-4:30)
1000 CLAREWOOD LN. 3BR/2.5BA townhouse w/formal dining room, eat-in kitchen & 2-car garage. Wendy Gardner x1303

Open Sunday

SAN LEANDRO \$489,000
1000 VELARDE DR. (Open 2-4:30)
1000 VELARDE DR. Single level 3BR/2BA ranch style home on quiet street in Assumption Parish neighborhood. Family rm w/fireplace. Lovely gardens & a patio. Approx. 1658 sq. ft. Candy Benny x1328

HADDON HILL \$479,000
1000 MCKINLEY AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
1000 MCKINLEY AVE. New Listing! Beautifully maintained craftsman bungalow! 2BR/1BA, hardwood floors, vintage fireplace and built-ins, landscaped gardens, updated kitchen and more! Lorri Arazi x1330

BERKELEY \$1,200,000
1000 3+BR/2BA Victorian, wonderful detail, recently remodeled & expanded, plus 3 separate charming 1BR/1BA cottages, large site, beautiful gardens. Leslie Avant x1341

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$899,000
1000 3+BR/2+BA Mediterranean w/ FDR, gourmet kitchen, home office, Bay views & landscaped garden. Helen Danhaki x1356 & Charlotte Boyle x1370

PIEDMONT \$3,350,000
1000 Incredible estate property. 5-BR residence and 1-BR guest house on almost one acre. Quiet, private setting. Georgia Cornell x1325

By Appointment

MONTCLAIR \$1,500,000
1000 New Listing! New custom craftsman w/ sweeping SF/GG views. Formal dining room, family room adjacent to gourmet kitchen. Au-pair or home office area. Wendy Gardner x1303

BERKELEY \$1,200,000
1000 Beautiful 3+BR/2BA Victorian, wonderful detail, recently remodeled & expanded, plus 3 separate charming 1BR/1BA cottages, large site, beautiful gardens. Leslie Avant x1341

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$899,000
1000 Charming 3+BR/2+BA Mediterranean w/ FDR, gourmet kitchen, home office, Bay views & landscaped garden. Helen Danhaki x1356 & Charlotte Boyle x1370

PIEDMONT \$3,350,000
1000 Incredible estate property. 5-BR residence and 1-BR guest house on almost one acre. Quiet, private setting. Georgia Cornell x1325

MONTCLAIR \$895,000
1000 5BR/3BA custom traditional w/formal dining, family room, gourmet kitchen level out to garden. In-law. 2-car garage. Wendy Gardner x1303

By Appointment

GLENVIEW \$625,000
1000 Romantic Mediterranean set in magical gardens. Large formal rooms, high ceilings hardwood flrs, large eat-in kitchen & large basement plus workshop. Attached garage 3BR/2BA. Michelle Vasev x1359

LAKE MERRITT \$619,000
1000 Luxury condominium w/bay & lake views 2BR/2BA. Like living on a chic cloud w/all the amenities. Sandi Klemmer x1314 & Dick Cohen x1308

GLENVIEW \$545,000
1000 Duplex on quiet cul-de-sac. Two 2BR, 1BA units. Wonderful setting. Francis Heath x1357

OAKLAND HILLS \$489,000
1000 Beautiful 3BR/2.5BA townhouse w/ impressive SF/GG views! Remodeled kitchen & master bath, large patio & garden. 2-car garage. Community pool. Robyn Mohr x1310

OAKLAND HILLS \$395,000
1000 Opportunity knocks! Spacious 4+BR/2BA fixer w/some bay view. House is approx. 3000 sq. ft. & large useable lot is approx. 14,000 sq. ft. 2-car garage. Robyn Mohr x1310

Coming Soon

CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$1,025,000
1000 Stately Traditional on a very desirable street. Beautifully appointed 4+BR/3BA home w/updated kitchen, family room, private yard & attic potential. Teri Carlisle x1305

DIMOND DISTRICT \$429,000
1000 Darling bungalow with large back yard. Delightful details like hardwood floors. 2BR/1BA. Sandi Klemmer x1314

ALBANY \$389,000
1000 Sunny & adorable 2BR Mediterranean w/ many upgrades. Eat-in kitchen, Mexican tile bath, new windows, mismatched hardwood floors, level yard & patio. Close to shops & restaurants. Donna Costella x1355

Hills Real Estate & Home: THE place to turn for up-to-date East Bay real estate information

The GRUBB Co.



101 Crocker Avenue, Piedmont

ON THE MARKET AUGUST 18. Elegant traditional all on level home on gorgeous sunny property. The gracious foyer leads to the exceptionally large and beautifully executed details of the living room and dining room. Ideal home for entertaining as French doors provide access from family room and living room to a comfortable, secluded patio and landscaped gardens with ultimate privacy.

Price Upon Request

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OFFICE: 339.0400/201
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The GRUBB Co.

NEW LISTING

565 Bellevue Ave # 2107

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This luxury condominium is located in the Bellevue Towers on the 21st floor and features panoramic views from the hills to the Bay. Two bedrooms, two baths including a master suite. Updated throughout with granite kitchen counters, recessed lighting, crown moldings, roman shades, and new appliances. Gym, pool, clubhouse and doorman included.

Offered at \$595,000



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Orinda



*S*ituated on a lovely wooded 0.6 acre lot. This charming ranch property provides an entry level opportunity to enjoy all that Orinda has to offer. Wonderful curb appeal. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1400 sq. ft. of living area, two car garage. Property to be sold in its present "as is" condition. 45 Muth Drive

Outstanding Remodel Opportunity Offered at \$589,000

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122 CROCKER AVENUE
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\$1,395,000

Nancy Hinkley

Voice Mail:

(510) 433-2842

represented the sellers

Prudential California Realty
342 Highland Ave.
Piedmont

Chloe Friday

Voice

(510) 980-1111

represented the buyers

Coming Soon



921 Fillmore Street, Albany

Sunny and adorable 2 bedroom Mediterranean with many upgrades. Eat-in kitchen, Mexican tile bath, new windows, matchstick hardwood floors, fabulous level yard and patio, close to shops and restaurants.

Offered at \$389,000



Donna Costella

Senior Sales Consultant. (510) 338-1355



just ask our clients

pacunion.com

New Listing!



340 Howard Avenue, Piedmont, CA 94609

Spectacular Spanish! Built in 1925, this attractive home features a traditional plan including two large bedrooms with a private porch off the master bedroom, full baths, formal living and dining rooms, and a separate laundry room and area. The newly renovated kitchen includes quality stainless steel appliances including Bosch dishwasher and a Thermador six-burner range. Adjacent to the kitchen is a sunny deck leading to magical gardens and a brick patio - perfect for barbecues. Classic molding and hardwood floors throughout.

Open Sunday 2-4:30 P.M.

Offered at \$729,000



Terri Bates Walker

BROKER ASSOCIATE

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(510) 433-7164 DIRECT

Virtual tour: www.pruweb.com/terriwalker

78 Yarrow Valley Ln., Orinda

Elegant Orinda Estate

Gorgeous apx. 4130 sq. ft. 5 bed., 4 bath home on apx. 1.47 acres of beautifully landscaped gardens in prestigious Orinda Downs. With soaring ceilings, huge living room, and great kitchen, this home is perfect for entertaining & family living.

\$1,945,000

5 Wellesley Ct., Lafayette

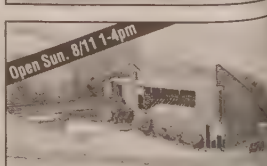
Nestled on apx. 5.4 acres of prime ridge top, 3 large bedrooms, 2 1/2 bathrooms, unobstructed panoramic views of Contra Costa & beyond. Near Briones Park.

\$1,450,000

20 La Campana Rd., Orinda

Rare Orinda Jewel w/apx. 2560 sq. ft., 4 bed., 3 bath gem. Great step-down liv. room, spacious Mstr. Ste., lge. guest suite. Wonderful views. Recently renovated & remodeled.

\$1,295,000



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GRUBB Co.



118 Wildwood Avenue, Piedmont

COMING SOON. Light, inviting and built with character in 1925, this three bedroom, two and one half bath home also offers three "plus" rooms below, perfect for an au pair quarters. Piedmont hills outlook in front and lovely terraced gardens in back. Located near Wildwood Elementary School.

Price Upon Request



LINDA McCLAIN
OFFICE: 339.0400/226
mcclain@grubbco.com
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New Haddon Hill Listing

OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2-4:30

818 McKinley Avenue, Oakland

Beautifully maintained, skilled craftsman bungalow with generous room sizes and vintage features, such as built-in room built-ins and Frank Wright-style tiled fireplace. Recent improvements include landscaping of both front and back gardens, fresh paint, stained hardwood floors, and updated kitchen. Offered at \$479,000.



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Beslie Easterday
Senior Sales Associate
(510) 338-1363

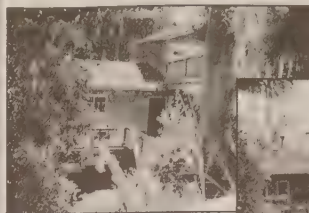
Borri Arazi
Broker Associate
(510) 338-1330



Carol A. Warren Company

Open House - 5948 Balboa

Sunday, Aug 11th 2pm-4:30pm



This intriguing single family home has much flexibility. The Main Floor of almost 1000 square feet has two bedrooms and one bath, while the bottom floor of about 600 square feet has a completely separate entrance with a great bar and family room, a bedroom, bath, and private redwood deck-perfect for a teenager or mother-in-law. There is a large hot tub nestled in an enclosed area and the laundry area is a separate room easily accessible up or down. The setting is among the redwoods and very private yet close to Montclair Village. Because the tenants are not quite out, this jewel will be open for viewing Sunday, on August 11, from 2:00 pm until 4:30 pm. Mark your calendar and COME. You will be pleasantly surprised.



Carol Warren, Broker
Phone: (510) 652-4800
Fax: (510) 652-1313
E-Mail: cawcompany@earthlink.net

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awaits your presence in this stunning custom home built in 1996 with a complete remodel and upgrade in 2002. The colorful glory of over 100 rose bushes greets you and your guests as they ascend dramatic slate stairs and enter a classical foyer through grand double doors. A spacious, flexible floorplan, ideal separation of space, large, gourmet kitchen with brand new state of the art appliances complemented by beveled granite counters and gleaming hardwood floors make entertaining a delight! With over 3,000 sq. ft. of elegant living space, a highly desirable Montclair location, the finest materials and beautiful finishes, including lavish use of marble and granite, this home is truly first class!

Asking price for this fine home is \$875,000

Sunday Open House
August 11
2:00pm - 4:30pm

Montclair



COLDWELL BANKER PREVIEW

COLDWELL BANKER
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

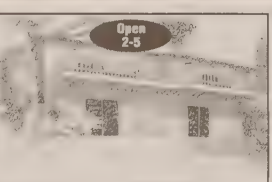
California moves.com
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA



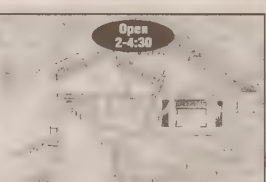
Open 2-4
626 Key Route Blvd.
ALBANY.....\$499,000
2BR 2BA New Priced MacGregor style. Hrdwd flrs, fml DR & frplc. Close to school & shopping. Lrg backyard. Approx 5,000 sq ft lot. Open Sunday.
Henry Chang.....510.486.1495



Open 1:30-4
2238 Curtis
BERKELEY.....\$860,000
6BR 5BA Two 3BR/2BA units + cottage. Excell cond. Vacant. Buy w/ partners or supplement mortg w/rents. Hwd flrs, freshly painted. Open Sunday.
Rita Zwerding.....510.486.1495



Open 2-5
3216 Burdeck
JOAQUIN MILLER.....\$535,000
3BR 3BA Fabulous view, gorgeous yard, large office w/built-ins, 2 fireplaces, near shops & freeways, all on curved driveway
Nader Davari.....510.339.4700



Open 2-4:30
5483 Kales
ROCKRIDGE.....\$479,000
2BR 1BA Craftsman w/charming wainscoting, box beam ceilings, large attic. French doors to deck overlooking the garden; near shops/restaurants
Dell Orr.....510.339.4700

FIRST OPEN

OPEN SUNDAY

BY APPOINTMENT

OAKMORE.....\$492,000
SUN 2 - 5 1615 LEIMERT
3BR 2BA Spacious, great floor plan, large office/rumpus, eat-in kitchen, formal dining, beautiful yard w/fruit trees & veggies.
Judy Ackerman.....510.339.4700

PIEDMONT AVENUE
SUN 2 - 5 1 KELTON #7H.....\$245,000
1BR 1BA Light filled unit w/view of Oakland Hills. New carpet, lino & freshly painted; Assigned parking, storage lockers, spacious lobby.
George Karsant.....510.339.4700

EL SOBRANTE.....\$549,950
4BR 3BA Updated Contemporary w/FP, formal dining, eat-in kitchen level yard
Reva Tolbert.....510.339.4700

OPEN SUNDAY

LOTS

BY APPOINTMENT

ALBANY.....\$509,000
SUN 2 - 5 823 CORNELL AVE.
3BR 2BA Newer contemporary architecture, very elegant & traditional inside. Ultimate convenience. 2car garage. Lovely herbal floral garden.
Suzanne Yamamoto.....510.486.1495

189 FLORENCE AVE.....\$779,000
BR BA Golden Gate view, almost level.
Jonathan Dunn.....510.339.4700

EL SOBRANTE.....\$449,000
3BR 2.5BA Tri-level. Views of Mt. Tam, San Pablo Bay & Napa Valley, 11 rooms. Gleaming hrdwd flrs, marble tile flrs in kitchen & a huge playroom.
Josh Whitmer.....510.486.1495

BERKELEY
SUN 2 - 4 1316 CEDAR ST.....\$499,000
2BR 1BA Duplex, side by side. 2BR/1BA each, both units delivered vacant. Remodeled bath. Next to Rose/Cedar Park, close to BART.
Linda Gerson.....510.486.1495

0 LEONA.....\$165,000
BR BA Large parcel, rolling hills w/pleasant creek.
David Eckert.....510.339.4700

LAKE MERRITT LUXURY.....\$559,000
2BR 2BA Prestige building: hardwood floor, fireplace, FDR, new recessed lighting, old world charm.
Lydia Nayo.....510.339.4700

CHABOT HIGHLANDS
SUN 2 - 5 10985 ELVESSA ST.....\$648,000
2BR 2.5BA New price! Level ranch, family room, 2 fireplaces, approx. 1/2 acre; private. Many extra features make this very special.
Donna Conroy.....510.339.4700

MONTCLAIR.....\$869,000
4BR 4.5BA 3 fireplaces, 2 master suites, decks overlooking the Bay, gourmet kitchen & family room.
Dell Orr.....510.339.4700

LAKE MERRITT LUXURY.....\$559,000
2BR 2BA Prestige building: hardwood floor, fireplace, FDR, new recessed lighting, old world charm.
Lydia Nayo.....510.339.4700

ROCKRIDGE
SUN 2 - 4:30 5766 CLAREMONT.....\$579,000
3BR 2BA 2-story Traditional; fr & new carpeting, close to BART and College Ave shopping.
PENDING.....510.339.4700

MONTCLAIR.....\$849,950
3BR 3.5BA Fabulous view, 4 level, master suite, huge gourmet kitchen/family room combo, 2 fireplaces.
Dell Orr.....510.339.4700

LAUREL.....\$329,000
2BR 1BA Close to everything. Charming! HDWD Floors under carpets. Great starter home in good neighborhood. Close to fwy's, school, bus.
Terry Anthony.....510.339.4700

OAKLAND
SUN 1 - 4:30 926 CHESTER ST.....\$356,000
1BR 1BA Kitchen w/SS appliances & granite counters, HWF upstairs, washer/dryer, skylights, secure parking. Skylights; 2 1/2 blocks from BART.
Victor Ratto.....510.339.4700

NO. BERKELEY.....\$377,000
2BR 1BA Diamond in the rough. 1st time on market! Hardwood floors, fireplace, laundry area, full basement, detached garage. Nice yard.
Dave Moss.....510.486.1495

WALNUT CREEK.....\$359,900
2BR 2BA Spacious, completely remodeled terrace garden unit. Pergo floors, maple/granite kitchen, spacious master bedroom w/walk-in closet
Elena Stone.....510.339.4700

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FROM PAGE B3

able to come up with a ballpark estimate of how much it would cost to renovate the property. They had lived through remodeling projects and knew first-hand how disruptive the process can be.

Numerous inspectors scrutinized the property. The inspections revealed that both the roof and the foundation needed replacing two large unanticipated expenses. Through further negotiations, the seller agreed to lower the purchase price by half the amount of these repairs.

The buyers also consulted with an architect who was familiar with the Piedmont Building Department requirements. This revealed that getting approval for the remodel would be a lengthy process. Armed with this information, the buyers decided to go ahead with the purchase. Less

experienced buyers shouldn't even consider a project of this magnitude.

An issue for most buyers contemplating a major home renovation is whether they will be able to recoup the costs when they sell. In most cases, the answer is: not immediately. Fix-up for sale projects involving minor cosmetic improvements are usually profitable when you sell. But, you usually don't recoup 100 percent of your investment on a major remodel done just before you sell.

Major renovations completed for your own benefit usually pay off if you live in the property long enough. Your home should appreciate in value over time. You'll earn appreciation on an asset that has been made more valuable by your renovations. Plus, you'll enjoy the benefits of the improvements while you're living in the property.

The closing: Buying a fixer isn't for everyone. But if you do de-

cide to take on such a project, go into it with your eyes open. It could take longer and be more frustrating and expensive than you anticipate. Fortunately, the results are usually worth it.

Dian Hymer is author of "House Hunting, the Take-Along Workbook for Home Buyers," and "Starting Out, the Complete Home Buyer's Guide," Chronicle Books. She is a top-producing broker associate with Coldwell Banker in the Oakland/Piedmont office. She can be reached at 510-339-4777.



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ALAMEDA

1804 MAIN ST. New 1 Bdrm/1 Ba. PENDING at Woodstock \$150,000

BAH LEANDRO

14402 OUTRIGGER DR. Open Sun. 2-4. 2 Bdrm/2 Bath, upper unit, vaulted ceilings incl., Two 1-car gar. Adjacent to Monarch golf course. \$305,000

1400 CARPENTER ST. #116 2 Bdrm/2 Ba, walk to BART + transp \$249,000

14163 SEAGATE 2 Bdrm/2 Bath PENDING \$295,000

14636 OUTRIGGER DR. Listing 3 Bdrm/2 Bath and kitchen w/ new appliances \$359,900

14525 FLAGSHIP ST. 2 Bdrm/2 Bath PENDING Satellite dish, hardwood floors incl \$315,000

14445 FLAGSHIP ST. 2 Bdrm/2 Bath SOLD Seagate 2 story townhome \$299,000

14321 SEAGATE DR. 3 Bdrm/2 Bath SOLD Seagate w/ attached 2 car garage \$260,000

14646 OUTRIGGER DR. 3 Bdrm/2 Bath SOLD 2 car garages \$335,000

13723 SEAGATE DR. 2 Bdrm/2 Bath SOLD Carport 1 garage space \$260,000

14015 OUTRIGGER DR. 2 Bdrm/1 Bath PENDING March Bay golf course \$260,000

14174 OUTRIGGER DR. 3 Bdrm/2 Bath SOLD Model at Mar na Seagate \$350,000

UPPER ROCKRIDGE VIEW HOME

1920's English Storybook Tudor

Offered at \$675,000

5045 PROCTOR AVENUE



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Represented by Mark Seyranian, Agent

510.482.8100

Laurel Beauty
4322 Masterson

This wonderful sun drenched 2 bedroom, 1 bath bungalow is set in the desirable Laurel neighborhood. A well maintained home, it features hardwood floors, newly painted breakfast nook and seismic upgrades. Other improvements throughout. A peaceful, bright garden with hot tub completes this precious gem.

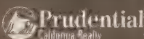
Offered at \$325,000

Call for a private showing or visit our website.

Dollie Henson

(510) 869-4255, Montclair Office

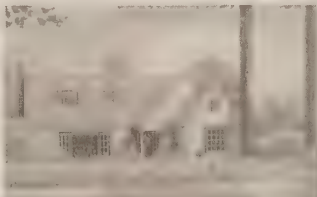
Website: www.pruweb.com/dolliehenson



RECENTLY SOLD IN PIEDMONT PINES



2666 Carisbrook Drive
4+ bedroom, 3 bath Cape Cod with kitchen/family room, library. List price: \$879,000



2675 Carisbrook Drive
Storybook 4 bedroom, 2 bath with lovely gardens
List price: \$699,000



Dian Hymer, CRS

Broker Associate

#1 Agent Oakland/Piedmont Office

510-339-4777

Website: Dianhymer.com



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New affordable listing: 2 bedroom, one bath co-operative with laundry and lovely veranda is tastefully remodeled yet at the amazing price of \$172,300.



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(925) 979-1858

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Marilyn T. Bremser
(925) 939-4612

New Listing

1825 VINE ST., #6, BERKELEY

Condominium
In Victorian Building

This sweet one bedroom unit has its own entrance into the Victorian style building. You find this home to be charming and quiet, with a fireplace, remodeled kitchen, tile and hardwood floors. The building is in very good condition. From this excellent north Bay location one may walk to famed "Gourmet Ghetto" and it is close to the Campus.

Please visit us at our open houses, August 11th and 18th, or call Rayne for a private showing.

Offered at \$320,000



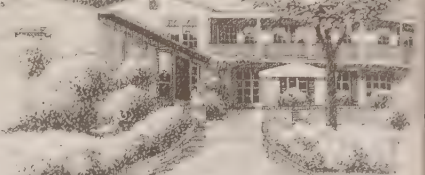
Rayne Palmer

Voice mail 510. 644. 5272
raynepalmer@aol.com



All data is not intended to be relied upon for any purpose.

The GRUBB Co.



61 Ring Avenue, Piedmont

ON THE MARKET AUGUST 19. This is one of Piedmont's most elegant and homes. A grand foyer with exquisite moldings, gorgeous high ceiling, exceptional architecture leads to a expansive secluded patio for entertaining. A stately library with handsome paneling has a grand fireplace. The four upstairs all open onto the balcony and each has its own bathroom which has been beautifully redesigned.

Offered at \$3,600,000

JEAN SIMMONS
OFFICE: 339.0400/201
GRUBBCO.COM

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Photo Tour

of this and other homes

www.EastBayTeam.com

Open Sun 2-4



Crocker Highlands, Oakland

1243 Bates Road

(Cross Street Holman)

Delightful, Sunny, Storybook bungalow architectural features include sunken living room, vaulted ceiling, Fireplace, Hardwood floors, Dining Room, Laundry room, Garage w/ car access, Large yard.

Offered at \$410,000

Open Sun 2-4



North Oakland

5750 Adeline St.

North Oakland 2 Bedroom Condo. Charming, decorated. Fireplace, Laundry included. Basement/garage converted into office.

A value listed at \$270,000



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Lorne & Sandy Lentz

Open Sunday, August 11, 2pm-5pm
Fabulous Home w/Fabulous View



3216 Burdeck Drive, Oakland

This bright & sunny home offers 3 bedrooms/3 baths, spacious family room w/2nd fireplace and a large office with built-in desks. The gorgeous landscaped fenced yard, makes this an attractive choice for those who love gardening & entertainment. This lovely home sits on a curved private drive, near park, shops, and offers Montclair schools. Even has a dog run.

Offered at \$535,000

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213 Mountain Avenue, Piedmont

Offered at \$1,995,000

ANIAN PETTIT TUNNEY, CRS

BROKER ASSOCIATE

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of this and other homes

Don't miss the Open Home Guide on page B13.



Open Sunday, August 11th 2-4 pm

50 ALAMO AVENUE

BERKELEY

Charming & light-filled, level-in home. Windows everywhere. Vaulted ceilings, skylights, master suite and hot tub in secluded yard. A level lot in the Berkeley Hills!

Offered \$699,000



BARBARA HENDRICKSON 510-280-2140

Red Oak Realty - 1891 Solano Ave - Berkeley, CA 94707



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Indicates Homes Being Held Open

OAKLAND/PIEDMONT

Piedmont Estate \$3,500,000
Outstanding estate over 13,000 sq. ft. 5BR/5+BA, au pair and 3-car garage. Beautiful garden & terraces.

Dollie Henson (510) 339-9290

Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$1,250,000
12 Westmoorland Dr. Beautiful, 4BR/3.5BA Mediterranean style home. Hardwood floors, granite/marble & S. view.

Ziggy Baranowski (510) 339-9290

Private Setting \$1,149,000
White Court. New 5BR/3.5BA home. Beautiful, immaculate attention to detail in serene, private setting.

Heidi Marchesotti (510) 339-9290

Rocky Highlands \$759,000
5BR/3BA panoramic views! Walk to shops. Gorgeous granite/cherry floors. Poss. in-law.

Marc Azarin (510) 834-2010

Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$729,000
14 Howard Ave. Stunning 4BR/2BA home with remodeled kitchen, formal dining room and magical gardens.

Terri Walker (510) 428-0900

Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$639,000
1750 Chelton Dr. Light-filled contemporary 4BR/2BA Golden Gate view home w/private yard.

Howard Converse (510) 339-9290

Big, Bright & Lovely \$399,000
This large 2BR/2BA home is in a terrific area and is loaded with potential!

Demetrius Wilson (510) 834-2010

Fabulous Co-op \$360,000
Great Merritt elegance in move-in condition in prestigious bldg. 2BR, 2.5 bath, storage, 24/hr. sec., cable, heat.

Caroline Slotemaker de Bruine (510) 287-8856

Open Sun. 2-5 \$349,000
188 - 51st Street. Wonderfully updated 2BR/1+BA townhouse. Gourmet kitchen, pvt. yard, end unit, garage/storage, new BAs. Also Gourmet/Vickie Robinson (510) 428-0900

Big House with 8 Rooms \$329,500
Near shopping, Lake Merritt, 4 car garage + 1 extra room, 2 BA, 2 living rooms, 2 kitchens.

Lisa Yu (510) 834-2010

★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$309,000

8041 Winthrop St. Tahoe style 2BR/1BA charmer w/appealing kitchen and great backyard. Must see!

Erik Johnson (510) 339-9290

New Listing! \$495,000

Lovely 2BR, 1BA bungalow w/fireplace, hwd. floors, breakfast nook, large yard, formal dining room, walk to BART.

Kathleen Crandall (510) 433-9781

★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$299,000

811 York St. #313. Sunny, bright 2BR/2BA w/view of downtown Oakland in an urban paradise!

C. B. Rose (510) 339-9290

★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$389,000

2111 Woolsey. Cute 2+BR/1BA bungalow w/detached studio in urban environment needs TLC.

Hope Broderick (510) 339-9290

Oakland Allendale Pk. \$299,000

Affordable home, 2BR/1BA, new carpet/paint, 6250 sq. ft. lot for expansion.

Lillian Liao (510) 337-8670

Victorian Condo \$320,000

Charming Victorian condo located in the "Gourmet Ghetto." One bedroom, one bath.

Rayne Palmer (510) 526-5143

Laurel Charmer \$265,000

2BR, 1BA in Laurel. HWF, new paint, fireplace & new linoleum. Offers as rec'd.

Ullon Willis (510) 834-2010

Adams Pt. \$239,000

Price reduced, seller very motivated. City & hill views. 1BR/1BA. Walk to Lake Merritt.

Fatima Ali (510) 845-0211

★ Open Sun. 1-4 \$399,000

4855 Hilltop Drive, El Sobrante Wow! Great opportunity. 3BR/2BA fixer on 1 acre. Already subdivided into 2 lots. Great investment opportunity.

(510) 527-9800

EMERYVILLE

Bright and Sunny \$439,000

EZ access to SF/Oakland/Berkeley, 1742 sq. ft., 1BR, 1BA. Light from 3 sides.

Connie Payne (510) 526-5143

★ Open Sun. 1-4 \$389,000

1400 Santa Clara, Richmond Annex. Fab. 3BR/3BA w/hwd. flrs. throughout. Master ste. w/Bay view. Near shopping & commute.

Catherine Zhang (510) 527-9800

Emeryville Jewel \$379,000

Classic 2BR jewel, huge lot, rose garden. Great details, big kitchen and no transfer tax!

Candice Economides (510) 845-0200

★ Open Sun. 1-4 \$385,000

1625 Mendocino, Richmond Annex. Freshly painted 2+BR/1BA w/large lot, 2 car garage, frpl., new windows. Call Claudia.

Claudia Brown (510) 869-5925 (510) 527-9800

BERKELEY/ALBANY

Elegant View Home \$995,000

Berkeley Hills view home w/all redone and well! Cook's kitchen. 5BR, 3BA including studio apt.

Liz and Michael (510) 845-0200

★ Open Sun. 1-4 \$379,950

1164 Viewpoint, Rodeo. Clean, well-maintained rancher. Newly remodeled custom kitchen, nice yards, great opportunity.

Mike (510) 869-5072 (510) 527-9800

TRACY

★ Open Sun. 2-5 \$749,000

2615 Etna St. Elmwood craftsman. Original details, 3+BR/1.5BA, study, sunroom, 3 fireplaces + large 1BR cottage, best neighborhood, spacious garden.

Colette Ford (510) 845-0211

Contemporary \$308,000

3BR, 2BA, vaulted ceilings, fireplace, tile roof, cul-de-sac, landscaped backyard.

Diane von Goethe (510) 526-5143

RENTAL

Two Houses on One Lot \$635,000

Both 2+BR, some hwd. flrs. Owner's house with remodeled kitchen & dual pane windows. Large 8620 sq. ft. lot. Near 4th St. shops.

Charles Turvey (510) 433-9803 (510) 849-3711

Posh Claremont Area \$3,000/Month

Pano Bay views, 3BR, 1BA, level in. \$3,000 rental per month. Walking distance to spas & shops.

Fatima Ali (510) 845-0211

BERKELEY HILLS REALTY

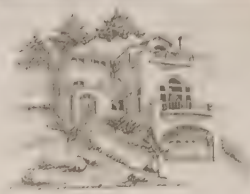
510.524.9888

www.berkhill.com

6672 Exeter, Oakland

By Appointment

Stunning, newer, sun-filled 4 bedroom, 3 bath home with canyon views! Exquisite upgrades, open gourmet kitchen, dramatic ceilings and windows. Reminiscent of an Italian villa. Level courtyard Truly special! \$930,000. Denise Milburn x35



1644 Visalia, Berkeley

Open Sun., 2-4

Lovely two-story Mediterranean in prime Thousand Oaks neighborhood. Upper level includes 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, formal dining room, living room with fireplace, large eat-in kitchen & spacious sun room. Lower level with interior access includes a big family room, full bath, extra kitchen and a two-car garage. Offers anytime; seller motivated. \$749,000. Jane Allen x23



5336 Rosalind, El Cerrito

Open Sun., 2-4

Come see this charming and light-filled home built in 1929 and on the market for the first time in over 50 years. 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, gorgeous hwd floors, fireplace, formal dining room, a big breakfast room. Large backyard (lot is 7,000+ sq. ft.) detached garage and rumpus room building. Great access to BART & Hwy. 80 \$459,000 as is. Peter Damm x13



861 Station Place, Berkeley

New Listing! Open Sun., 2-4:30

Located on a little cul-de-sac just off Solano Ave., this charming bungalow enjoys a backyard large enough to satisfy the most avid gardener. It features a generous living room with fireplace and built-in bookcases, a formal dining room, good working kitchen with separate breakfast room, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths & a plus room for office or sleeping. \$450,000. Barbara Conheim x28



"It really was a pleasure to work with you. You made a very tedious process very relaxed, and I never doubted your expertise and wisdom in the way to proceed!"

-S.K., Berkeley

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EL CERRITO, 406 Village Dr. \$535,000

Picture perfect home with dramatic garden. Gorgeous architectural custom design and outstanding craftsmanship! Three bedrooms, 2 baths, stunning gourmet kitchen. Granite, black slate Anderson windows, red oak hardwood, and more throughout. Walking distance to Plaza BART

Open Sun. 2-4:30, Mary Gray (510) 559-2939



ALBANY, 1129 Dartmouth St. \$489,000

This wonderful home features 3 bedrooms, 1 large, updated bath, a sunny eat-in kitchen with plenty of cabinets & an adjacent family room with dining area. Several plus rooms downstairs for home office/workshop. Walk to Solano Avenue & Westbrae shops and restaurants. Near Tot Lot Park

Open Sun. 2-4, Todd Hodson (510) 559-2915



RICHMOND VIEW, 6342 Kensington Ave. \$489,000

Two houses! Live in beautiful remodeled one bedroom house with unfinished downstairs, ready for bedrooms, rec room, studio space - anything! Rent out 2nd house, a one-bedroom cottage. Bay views, quiet area near Wildcat Park.

Open Sun. 1-4, Dee Phunkett (510) 559-2933



RICHMOND VIEW, 6108 Plymouth Ave. \$439,000

Incredible views from this spacious 2-story, 3 bedroom home. Features include hardwood floors, 2 full baths, a big kitchen with a breakfast nook, living room with fireplace, huge rec room with fireplace, terraced yard, 2-car garage. Wonderful neighborhood near Wildcat Canyon Park

Open Sun. 2-4, Dee Phunkett (510) 559-2933



EL CERRITO, 5701 Charles Ave. \$419,000

Bay views from this sunny private and tastefully remodeled home. Three bedrooms with refinished hardwood floors. 1.5 baths. Formal living and dining rooms with random plank hardwood floors, sunny kitchen & breakfast area, laundry, access to patio, garden & deck.

Open Sun. 2-4, Todd Hodson (510) 559-2915



BERKELEY, 1287 Francisco St. \$389,000

A commuter's dream! Bright & cheerful 2+ bedrooms, 2 bath home. Many upgrades including a remodeled kitchen and upgraded baths. Large plus room can be a bedroom, office or walk to 4th Street shops, BART.

Open Sun. 2-4, Dave Bigelow or Ken Katz (510) 527-2700



N & E RICHMOND, 2708 Lowell Ave. \$295,000

JUST STARTING OUT?? This spacious 2+ bedroom on a tree-lined street might be perfect for you. Large lot, large detached garage. Newer kitchen & bath. Close to transportation.

Open Sun. 2-4, Wendy Balkentz (510) 527-2700x33



OAKLAND, 1161 Bayview Ave. \$299,000

Oakland Sleeping Beauty. This wonderful craftsman home needs TLC to awaken and restore the original wood detailing, light maple floors in the living room and dining rooms, and rich oak floors in the bedrooms. Probably a custom built house on a deep lot, the potential comes through. 2+ bedrooms. Please see this listing. @ www.marvingardens.com

Open Sun. 2-4, Kathie Berg (510) 527-2700x34

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EL CERRITO 510-527-9800	GRAND LAKE 510-834-2010	KENSINGTON 510-526-5143	MONTCLAIR 510-339-9290	PIEDMONT 510-428-0900

Spacious Oasis in Pinole



\$599,000

Exceptional home on Cul-de-sac. .96 of an acre, meandering pathways, gardens, extensive decking, 3+ bed/3.5 bath. Vaulted living room, eat-in kitchen.



LEE GOODWIN
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THORNWALL
Properties

Market Indicator*
Last wk 6.375
This wk 6.250

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COMPANY	Loan Product		Loan Product		Loan Product		Loan Product		Rates as of 8/6/02	COMMENTS
	Rate/Points	APR/Lock	Rate/Points	APR/Lock	Rate/Points	APR/Lock	Rate/Points	APR/Lock		
A Superior Mortgage 800-591-4446 DRE#1242793 Fees = \$3629	30-yr Fixed 6.250...0.000 6.430...30		30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375...0.000 6.560...30		15-yr Fixed 5.500...0.000 5.680...30		5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.875...0.000 5.100...30			Open Weekends. Credit Problems OK "Apply online" www.superior-mtg.net
AAA Mortgage 888-821-6200 DRE#01096146 Fees = \$1599	30-yr Fixed 5.875...2.000 6.150...30		30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...1.500 6.190...21		15-yr Fixed 5.250...1.500 5.630...30		15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500...1.500 5.810...21			0 point loans available - no cost Open weekends 888-821-6200
AccessBanc Mortgage 800-661-2765 DRE#00892684 Fees = \$1330	30-yr Fixed 6.250...0.000 6.312...30		30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.500...0.000 6.531...30		Jumbo Special*		Jumbo Special*			*3/1 ARM 4.5%, 4.617 APR 30 day lock *5yr/6mo ARM 5 125%, 4.268 APR 30 day lock 0/0 Fee, Prepay & other restrictions may apply
AimLoan.com, A Direct Lender 888-411-4246 DRE#01235124 Fees = \$2505	30-yr Fixed 6.250...0.250 6.402...30		30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.500...0.000 6.552...30		15-yr Fixed 5.625...0.250 5.874...30		7/1 ARM Jumbo 5.500...0.000 5.340...30			Apply online 24/7 Lock 7 days a week
A-Olympic Funding Best Rate 800-640-5588 DRE#01197415 Fees = \$1820	30-yr Fixed 5.875...2.000 6.020...30		30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.125...2.000 6.230...30		15-yr Fixed 5.000...2.000 5.120...30		15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.250...2.000 5.710...30			Best Rate Promise! S.E. Bay & Peninsula Offices Open 7 days 9-9 24-7 www.offloans.com
Bay Area Olympic Funding 888-833-1000 DRE#01197415 Fees = \$1685	30-yr Fxd J/C 6.625...0.000 6.688...30		3/1 ARM Jumbo** 2.200...0.000 2.232...30		5/1 ARM Jumbo** 3.950...0.000 3.985...30		25yr/6mo Jmb ARM 4.000...0.000 4.035...30			We specialize in SUPER JUMBOS starting at \$650,000, Interest Only, NO Income Verification All ARMs Int'l Only: SFOfunding.com *Pot req
California Mortgage Mart 800-847-4769 DRE#00406167 Fees = \$1758	30-yr Fixed 6.250...0.000 6.320...30		30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375...0.000 6.410...30		15-yr Fixed 5.625...0.000 5.750...45		15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...0.000 5.920...30			Further information at www.CaliforniaMortgageMart.com
Cal-State Funding 800-883-5363 DRE#00874441 Fees = \$2010	30-yr Fixed 6.125...1.000 6.320...30		30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375...1.000 6.570...30		5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.125...1.000 5.320...30		3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.375...1.000 4.570...30			CALL US FOR YOUR NEXT LOAN WE DO IT ALL...RIGHT
CMG Mortgage 800-858-5339 DRE#01170628 Fees = \$1433	30-yr Fixed 6.000...1.250 6.184...30		30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.125...1.375 6.284...30		15-yr Fixed 4.750...0.375 4.797...30		5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.125...0.250 5.190...30			Open Saturday - Sunday. Qui... Stated Income not on available. Available financing for people with less than 20% down
Downey Savings & Loan 800-798-2148 DRE#0037471 Fees = \$1428	30-yr Fixed 6.000...1.500 6.170...45		30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.250...1.500 6.408...45		1-mo COFI ARM* 2.950...0.000 5.492...45					Direct Lender. 45 years experience. Home adjustable rate mortgages. *Pot. neg. appl. Apply online at www.downeysavings.com
Finet.com 800-641-7556 DRE#00921943 Fees = \$1717	30-yr Fixed 6.375...0.000 6.530...30		30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.600...0.000 6.605...30		5/1 ARM Jumbo* 5.125...0.000 5.221...30		3/1 ARM Jumbo* 4.625...0.000 4.718...30			"SUPER JUMBO TO 1 MILLION LOAN AMT PURCHASE & REFINANCE OPTIONS
Lenders Northstar Mtg Grp 888-568-9060 DRE#1345744 Fees = \$2224	30-yr Fixed 6.000...1.625 6.233...30		30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.125...1.875 6.338...30		15-yr Fixed 5.250...2.000 5.689...30		1-yr ARM 2.750...1.000 2.892...30			Call or visit on line, great rates, purchase & ref. www.northstarmortgage.com Call for zero point quotes
Matrix Investment Corp. 800-368-8916 DRE#130418 Fees = \$2150	30-yr Fixed 5.750...1.990 6.010...30		30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...1.990 6.040...30		15-yr Fixed 5.000...1.250 5.380...30		30-yr Fixed 6.125...0.000 6.240...30			Good & Bad Credit Considered. Brokers Welcome www.matrixinvestmentcorp.com Seeking Outside Loan Officers/Org. nators - Ca
Mortgage Market 800-837-5626 DRE#00887582 Fees = \$1875	30-yr Fixed 6.375...0.000 6.491...30		30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.500...0.000 6.616...30		15-yr Fixed 5.750...0.000 5.938...30		5/1 ARM 5.250...0.000 5.358...30			Credit problems, bankruptcy, difficult loans our specialty. All gov't loans. 100% loan credit lines, construction. 20 years of serv...
Northern Mutual Corp. 888-441-2600 DRE#01243581 Fees = \$2648	30-yr Fixed 5.740...2.000 6.050...30		30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.740...2.000 5.980...30		15-yr Fixed 5.490...2.000 6.010...30					100% cash out loans also available Look at our jumbo rates E-mail us today: Steve@NorthernMutual.com
Pacific West Financial 800-798-7334 DRE#01124581 Fees = \$1694	30-yr Fixed 6.250...0.000 6.304...30		30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.500...0.000 6.534...30		15-yr ARM Jumbo 4.875...0.000 4.905...30					Apply at pacificwestfinancial.net 100% purchase - credit problems OK See Habla Espanol
Premier Mortgage Group 888-909-9385 DRE#130396 Fees = \$1992	30-yr Fixed 6.250...0.000 6.339...30		30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375...0.000 6.404...30		15-yr Fixed 5.500...0.000 5.818...30		7-yr Balloon 5.375...0.000 5.518...30			Apply online at WWW.PMGMORTGAGE.COM
The Mortgage Center 800-670-8403 DRE#00809920 Fees = \$2102	30-yr Fixed 6.250...0.000 6.354...30		30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375...0.000 6.427...30		15-yr Fixed 5.500...0.000 5.552...30		1-yr ARM 2.950...0.000 3.002...30			Open Sat & Sun

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Rates based on \$150,000 loan for single family residence. Jumbo rates (loans in excess of \$300,700) based on \$350,000 loan. All rates are believed to be accurate and are subject to change without notice. Minimum downpayment requirements and other restrictions may apply. Closing costs may vary. Contact lender for details. Points include origination and discount fees. APR = annual percentage rate and is calculated by each company - includes costs to obtain loan and private mortgage insurance. Lock-rate lock period. ARM=adjustable rate mortgage. Companies pay a fee to be in this Guide. *Average 30 yr. fixed conforming with 0 points Fees are estimated - loan to loan. These are not inclusive of all costs and do not include points, prepaid interest, title insurance or escrow items. Click on "Fees" in "Current Mortgage Rates" - contact each company for details. *Covered by N.C. INFOGRAPHY, Inc. Data Services and not a Financial Corp.

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LANDMARK URBAN RETREAT!

\$749,000

Relax by the tranquil waterfalls and hot tub in the amazing cactus garden. Entertain behind walls-of-glass to a panoramic SF/Golden Gate view. Enjoy the lavish custom kitchen, "great room" with hot tub and many unique upgrades. Steven Biasatti



ALAMEDA

\$660,000

New listing! Come see this charming 4 bedroom, 3 bath Tudor with hardwood floors, fireplace, and master suite with a computer loft. Beautiful landscaped rear yard and brick patio. All within a short walk to the beach. Deb Riney



OAKLAND HADDON HILL

\$629,000

Charming 1955 Rancher features: 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, formal dining, fireplace in living, double garage w/interior access, central patio, terraced yard. Totally original and has "Good Bones." D.C. Hodges



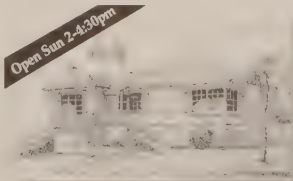
REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$559,000

Adorable Spanish on a quiet cul-de-sac, vaulted ceiling in living room, formal dining room, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath. Parquet floors, custom remodel of bathroom. Mary Hanna



CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$519,000

Beautifully maintained 2 bedroom, 1 bath 1925 stucco home with fireplace, gleaming hardwood floors, formal dining room, eat-in-kitchen, bonus room and tri-level easy care patio garden for your relaxation. Tom Erwin



MONTCLAIR

\$449,000

Reduced!!! Charming 1939 one level home has 3 bedrooms & 2 baths. Features an updated eat-in-kitchen/family room, master suite, new hardwood floors, and a great family home. Dana Cohen



REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$425,000

Charming 2 bedroom, 1 bath home with a detached studio. Lush gardens, hardwood floors, fireplace, and garage. Private, woody setting with a level lot. Sarah Schuster



MONTCLAIR FIXER REDUCED!! \$423,000

Wonderful opportunity for the buyer who is looking for great upside potential in the heart of Montclair 3 bedroom, 2 bath. In private setting surrounded by lovely homes make this a great buy. Carol Cohen

CASTRO VALLEY \$559,950
Elegant first class home! This spacious three bedroom plus office with two and a half baths. Private setting with view of hills, huge kitchen with oak cabinets and tile counters, indoor laundry with sink. Private patio with waterfall. This home is immaculate! Judy Pipkin

LIVERMORE \$460,000
This home has it all. This three bedroom/two and a half bath home is magnificent. Two-way fireplace, formal dining, fresh paint, new carpet, new tile floor in kitchen and bath, sprinklers front & rear, fruit trees, new deck, storage shed, surround sound in family room, new sod in backyard, and alarm system. Dale Turner

HAYWARD \$395,000
Beautiful home with great neighborhood! Three bedrooms, two baths, hardwood floor in kitchen, dollhouse play set, open deck, mini waterfalls in pond, and play court in front. Located near schools and shopping! Maria Kenyon

ALAMEDA \$369,000
Lovely one-level townhome in Harbor Bay Isle. Featuring one plus bedroom, one bath, den and fireplace in living room. Walk to shoreline and next to Harbor Bay Club. Peter Fletcher & Diane Britto.

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MARTINEZ \$439,000
Elegant, Contemporary home in desirable Westside neighborhood with three bedrooms/two and a half baths. Beautifully landscaped private backyard. Plantation shutters, custom window covers, neutral decor, light and bright! Many upgrades, community pool and tennis courts! Top rated elementary school nearby and easy access to freeways and BART! Anne Athenour Martin

Open Sun. 1-4 SAN RAMON \$779,000
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2 New Listings



520 - 43rd St., Richmond

Mid-century style home - Great curb appeal, superb location (North & East). Bright & Beautiful 2BD, 1BA home. Spacious Kit. Form. Din. Rm., Lovely Tile Floor. Offered at \$318,950



453 - Dohrmann Ln., Pinole

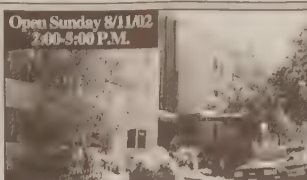
Two story - High ceiling in living rm., 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths with 2-car garage and fireplace. Close to shopping and transportation. Near San Pablo Bay.

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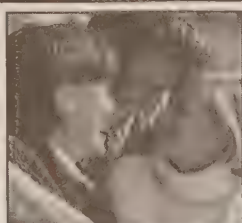


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213 MOUNTAIN AVENUE

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Anian Pettit Tunney



175 MOUNTAIN AVENUE

Gracious two story traditional right in the center of Piedmont! 4BR/2.5BA, plus separate office, family room, garage and pool.

\$1,599,000

Katherine Cooper

BERKELEY & KENSINGTON - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

67 CANYON ROAD

Grand Panoramic Hill 4+BR/3BA Craftsman w/superb architectural details, & stunning 2BR/1BA atelier/unit + other inc/ space; extensive grounds & gardens.

\$1,295,000

The Radcliffe's

2901 BUENA VISTA WAY

Architecturally distinguished glass & timbered private retreat surrounded by lush garden. 4BR/2BA. Commanding Bay & bridge views.

\$1,250,000

Helene Barkin

1165 KEELER AVENUE

Brilliant SF, bridge & Bay views! Park-like private garden w/lush lawns, blooming flowers, majestic trees & singing birds. Open floorplan. 3BR/2BA.

\$625,000

Chris Cohn

1236 ALLSTON WAY

This sweet 1++BR/1BA home offers comfortable living in a lovely garden setting behind a picket fence - moments from shopping, dining & transportation.

\$349,000

The Radcliffe's

OAKLAND - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 P.M.

5983 SKYLINE BLVD

Stunning Tuscan style home by known builder Scott Cameron. Beautiful windows highlight panoramic views from most rooms.

\$1,595,000

Jill Carrigan

5950 MCANDREW DR.

Exquisite country English home surrounded by beautiful gardens. Lovely pool, patio, pool house, country kitchen, family room, 4BR/4BA.

\$1,395,000

Elizabeth Dickson

4209-19 MONTGOMERY ST

Upgraded 6-unit building in desirable Piedmont Ave. location incl. separate rear cottage & parking lot. Top rents. Great penthouse w/views.

\$1,285,000

Karen Starr

1039 RISPIN DRIVE

Entertain with style in this smashing new contemporary, tucked away behind the Claremont Hotel yet close to world-class restaurants.

\$1,150,000

Steve Michaelides

3376 ROBINSON DRIVE

A custom home with an open floor plan and pool located in a quiet setting on over 3/4 acre near transportation & great schools. 3BR/2BA.

\$825,000

Sandra Vogl

1901 LEIMERT BLVD.

Today's home - sophisticated & casual. Spacious & sunny rooms, 4BR/2.5BA, view, in-law potential. Private patio, terraced gardens with fruit trees.

\$789,000

Ed Kuo

1200 TRESTLE GLEN RD.

Smart & stylish vintage gem. Light & bright rooms, newly remodeled kitchen & bath, separate breakfast room, attached garage, level lot w/sunny garden.

\$719,000

Judith Cain

1841 CARTER STREET

Adorable Oakmore Colonial. Lovely front terrace, rear garden w/fountain. All hardwood floors, granite kitchen, 3BR/2BA. Charming!

\$689,000

Lori Lombardo

536 MIDCREST DRIVE

Move right in to this Crocker Highlands treasure. Wonderful chef's kitchen, formal dining room, lovely family room, garden & garage.

\$599,000

Carolyn Jones

565 BELLEVUE AVE # 2107

Luxury 21st floor condominium on Lake Merritt. 2BR/2BA, updated throughout incl a master suite. Panoramic views. Pool, gym & clubhouse.

\$595,000

Kurt Buchholz

5756 FLORENCE TERRACE

This adorable 2BR/2BA Montclair home features a peaceful wooded setting, terraced front gardens, spacious decks and a level back garden.

\$459,000

Sherry Benninger

260 CALDECOTT LN # 106

Fresh, light & lovely! Immaculate Parkwoods 1BR/1BA condominium. Pergo in entry & kitchen. Private, quiet & gracious w/The Parkwoods amenities.

\$275,000

Tricia Swift

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\$2,400,000

Donna DeBardi

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BERKELEY. Magical Mediterranean w/private pool & tennis court! 4BR/4.5BA, den/au pair, library, level garden & gracious grounds!

\$1,850,000

Bebe McRae

ARCHITECT MODERNISM

BERKELEY. Innovative & dramatic! Interior sky openings & modern lines create a sculptural quality. Master suite w/ circular BA. Garden, patio, deck, garage.

\$695,000

Chris Cohn

MONTCLAIR RETREAT

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\$695,000

Mavis Delacroix

MODERN RETREAT

KENSINGTON. A sophisticated modern retreat. Bright, open & airy with Tilden Park at your feet. 4BR/2BA, sunny garden, verdant vistas.

\$695,000

Ron Eggherman

NORTH BERKELEY

BERKELEY. Best of North Berkeley. This Prairie style home is conveniently located close to Gourmet Ghetto. 3BR/1.5BA + in-law potential.

\$649,000

Linda Wolan

OAKLAND HILLS

Spectacular pano views of San Francisco & the entire Bay area. 3BR/2.5BA, hardwood floors, living room & family room w/fireplace, beautiful gardens.

\$629,000

Kurt Buchholz

RETREAT WITH VIEWS

BERKELEY. Charming & private hide-away with views & land (3 parcels). Living room w/vaulted ceiling, balcony, skylights, storage & garage.

\$595,000

Helene Barkin

CHARMING CRAFTSMAN

Charming 2+BR Craftsman bungalow with original woodwork and a spacious garden. Located in the Piedmont Ave. neighborhood near Rockridge.

\$549,000

Mavis Delacroix

LINCOLN HEIGHTS.

Charming 1940's vintage 3BR/1.5BA home in Lincoln Heights. Gracious public rooms, spacious room on lower level. City lights view. Garage.

\$479,000

K. Harmon & K. Cooper

CROCKER HIGHLANDS

Tastefully updated 3BR/2BA traditional, loaded w/charm. Gleaming hardwood floors & a cozy level garden combine to make this home a real gem!

\$459,000

Steve Michaelides

PARKWOODS CONDO

Exceptional 2BR/2BA condo in the Parkwoods gated community. Sophisticated & private. An extraordinary home w/exceptional amenities.

\$390,000

Tricia Swift

BUILDABLE LOTS

\$249,000. Downslope lot in Upper Rockridge. Sherry Benninger \$1,000,000. Upslope w/breathtaking view. Donna DeBardi

Sherry Benninger

Donna DeBardi

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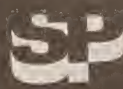
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BERKELEY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
67 Canyon Rd Panoramic Hill The Grubb Co	6 + 88A	Sun 2-4:30	\$1,295,000
2901 Buena Vista Way The Grubb Co	480/38A	Sun 2-4:30	\$1,250,000
771 San Luis Pacific Union	480/38A	Sun 2-4:30	\$795,000
526 Woodmont Ave Pacific Union	3 + 80/28A	Sun 2-4	\$775,000
1644 Vitalea Berkeley Hills Realty	380/28A	Sun 2-4	\$740,000
2815 Etna St Emwood	3 + 71.5	Sun 2-5	\$748,000
50 Alamo RED OAK	380/28A	Sun 2-4	\$699,000
1165 Keeler Ave The Grubb Co	380/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$625,000
54 Sunset Lane Thornhill Properties	380/28A	Sun 2-4	\$595,000
1361 Santa Fe Ave. Prudential CA Realty	2 + 80/28A	Sun 2-4	\$499,000
2227 Cedar Street Open Sunday ERL John Koenigshofer	2 + 80/18A	2-5	\$498,000
1052 Euclid North Berkeley Prudential CA Realty	3 + 80/28A	Sun 2-5	\$498,000
2218 Woolsey St. Prudential Calif. Realty	280/18A	Sun 2-5	\$498,000
861 Station Place Berkeley Hills Realty	280/28A	Sun 2-4	\$450,000
1520-1522 Francisco Prudential Calif. Realty	280/28A	Sun 2-4	\$450,000
2526 California St Marvin Gardens R.E.	380/28A	Sun 2-4	\$400,000
1525 Ashby Ave. Open Sunday Better Homes	2 + 80/28A	2-4:30	\$399,000
1287 Francisco St. Open Sun. David Sigel/Ken Katz	2 + 80/28A	2-4	\$388,000
1236 Alston Way The Grubb Co	1 + 78A	Sun 2-4:30	\$348,000
1625 Vine, #6 Prudential CA Realty	180/18A	Sun 2-5	\$320,000
3079 Buena Vista RED OAK	1 + 80/28A	Sun 2-4	\$310,000

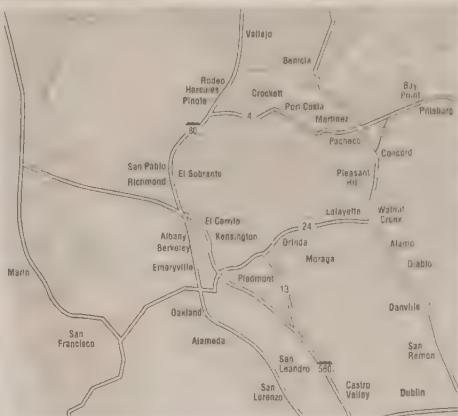
Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1050 Levene Place Luis Trucios	4 bdr/3 ba	Sun 1-5	\$695,000
406 Village Drive Marvin Gardens R.E.	380/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$535,000
705 Geelson Pl. Wells & Bennett	380/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$515,000
2349 Carquinez Ave. Bay Area Properties	380/28A	Sun 2-5	\$505,000
5725 Fern Security Pacific	480/38A	Sun 2-4	\$479,900
5336 Rosalind Berkeley Hills Realty	380/28A	Sun 2-4	\$459,000
307 Carmel Ave. Ritchey Real Estate	280/18A	Sun 2-5	\$425,000
5701 Charles Ave. Marvin Gardens R.E.	380/28A	Sun 2-4	\$419,000
921 Elm Street Thornhill Properties	380/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$399,000
2320 Cedar St. Millstien & Assoc.	380/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$398,000
917 Elm Street Thornhill Properties	280/18A	Sun 2-4	\$379,000

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
5154 Carriage Dr Target Realty	480/38A	Sun 2-4	\$906,000
5777 Sherwood Forest Dr. Security Pacific	480/38A	Sun 1-5	\$375,000
4594 Fern Way Security Pacific	380/28A	Sun 2-4	\$369,950
3435 Morningside RED OAK	380/28A	Sun 2-4	\$339,000

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
4053 Harlan, #202 Prudential CA Realty	180/18A	Sun 2-4	\$439,000
5929 Vallejo St. Prudential Calif. Realty	280/18A	Sun 2-4	\$379,000
65th St. & Vallejo St. Prudential	180 + 80A	Sun 1-4	\$300K

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
620 River Oak Way #27 Prudential/Stoneridge	2 bdr/1 ba	Sun 1-4	\$218,000

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
44 Schooner Hill Hillier Properties	380/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$795,000
1901 Laimert Blvd Oakland	480/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$795,000
1018 Park Lane Prudential CA Realty	480/38A	Sun 2-5	\$759,000



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HERCULES

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
117 Tuscany Bay Area Dream Homes	180/18A	Sun 1-4	\$189,950

KENSINGTON

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
43 Arlington Ave. Open Sunday C21 Heritage R.E.	380/28A	2-4:30	\$748,000
435 Berkeley Park Blvd. Bay Area Properties	280/18A	Sun 2-4	\$399,000

LAFAYETTE

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
3882 Los Arboles Dr. C21 Heritage R.E.	480/38A	1-6	\$1,250,000

LIVERMORE

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
4802/38A Open Sunday Better Homes	480/38A	2-4:30	\$478,000
510-339-4000 Linda Oliva			

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1138 Drury Rd Claremont Hills Wells & Bennett	480/48A	Sun 2-4:30	\$1,899,000
1280 Grand View Dr Claremont Hills Wells & Bennett	480/38A	Sun 2-4:30	\$1,875,000
5983 Skyline Blvd The Grubb Co	4 + 88A	Sun 2-4:30	\$1,535,000
6333 Fairlane Kensington Realty	480/38A	2-5	\$1,495,000
6198 Mazzeola Dr Prudential R.E.	480/48A	Sun 2-4:30	\$1,475,000
5950 McAndrew Dr The Grubb Co	480/48A	Sun 2-4:30	\$1,395,000
4209-4129 Montgomery St. Piedmont Avenue The Grubb Co	8 + 68A	Sun 2-4:30	\$1,295,000
7112 Westmoreland Drive Prudential-Montclair	480/48A	Sun 1-4:30	\$1,250,000
1039 Ripin Dr The Grubb Co	480/38A	Sun 2-4:30	\$1,150,000
6140 Mascola Dr. Open Sunday Coldwell Banker	5 + 80/48A	2-4:30	\$1,150,000
5799 Country Club Drive Prudential-Montclair	480/38A	Sun 1-4:30	\$1,100,000
1102 Grandview Dr Pacific Union	3 + 72/8A	Sun 2-4:30	\$995,000
6810 Sherwood Dr. Claremont Hills Coldwell Banker	4 + 72 + 8A	2-5	\$950,000
13463 Skyline Blvd Pacific Union	3 + 72 + 8A	Sun 2-4:30	\$950,000
6830 Thornhill Dr Wells & Bennett	480/38A	Sun 2-4:30	\$878,000
980 Mountain Blvd. Montclair, Open Sunday Better Homes	480/38A	2-4:30	\$875,000
3376 Robinson Dr The Grubb Co	380/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$825,000
44 Schooner Hill Hillier Properties	380/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$795,000
1901 Laimert Blvd Oakland	480/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$795,000
1018 Park Lane Prudential CA Realty	480/38A	Sun 2-5	\$759,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2332 Bywood Dr Upper Oakland Assist-2-Sell	3 + 88A	Sun 1-4	\$745,000
1200 Trestle Glen Rd Oakland Highlands The Grubb Co	280/18A	Sun 2-4:30	\$713,000
827 Skyline Circle Skyline, Open Sunday Better Homes	380/28A	1-4:30	\$715,000
5985 Harbord Dr. Montclair, Open Sunday Better Homes	380/28A	Sun 1-4	\$699,000
1841 Carter St The Grubb Co	380/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$688,000
5855 Virmar Rockridge Realty	480/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$675,000
414 Hiller Dr. Hillier	380/28A	Sun 2-4	\$668,000
10985 Elvessa Chabot Highlands, Open Sunday Coldwell Banker	380/28A	2-5	\$648,000
5760 Chelton Drive Prudential-Montclair	480/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$638,000
606 Prospect Ave. Haddon Hill, Open Sunday C21 Heritage R.E.	480/28A	2-4:30	\$628,000
6111 Lawton Rockridge Realty	380/28A	Sun 2-4	\$625,000
778 Spruce RED OAK	380/28A	Sun 2-5	\$616,000
6522 Saratov Drive Montclair, Open Sunday C21 Heritage R.E.	480/38A	2-4:30	\$610,000
4114 Lymann Rd Pacific Union	2 + 71 + 8A	Sun 2-4:30	\$610,000
1030 Bayview Ave. Prudential	480/28A	Sun 2-4	\$598,000
4835 Shaffer Ave. 2 Houses, Temescal Prudential	480/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$598,000
4008 La Cresta RED OAK	380/28A	Sun 2-4	\$598,000
535 Midcrest Dr The Grubb Co	380/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$598,000
1021 Elbert St. Redwood Heights, Open Sunday Better Homes	380/28A	2-5	\$596,000
565 Bellevue Ave #2107 Lafayette	280/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$595,000
1357 Bates Prudential-Montclair	380/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$588,000
6789 Moore Dr. Montclair, Open Sunday Better Homes	480/28A	2-4:30	\$575,000
109 Selkirk St. Redwood Heights, Open Sunday Pacific Union	280/18A	Sun 2-4:30	\$568,000
3414 Guido Redwood Heights, Open Sunday C21 Heritage R.E.	380/18A	2-4:30	\$558,000
6738 Banning RED OAK	3 + 80/28A	Sun 2-4	\$548,000
6839 Colby RED OAK	480/28A	Sun 2-5	\$548,000
432 62nd St Lower Rockledge Lawton Associates	280/18A	Sun 1-5	\$539,000
3216 Burdick Joan Hill, Open Sunday Coldwell Banker	3 + 80/28A	2-5	\$535,000
5251 Alameda Lawton Associates	480/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$532,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
77 Clarewood Ln Rockledge Pacific Union	380/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$525,000
1339 Bates Road Oakland Highlands, Open Sunday C21 Heritage R.E.	280/18A	2-4:30	\$519,000
1818 Laimert Oakland, Open Sunday Coldwell Banker	3 + 80/28A	2-5	\$482,000
818 McKinley Ave Pacific Union	380/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$479,000
5483 Kales Rockledge, Open Sunday Coldwell Banker	280/18A	2-4:30	\$479,000
4015 Malcolm Ave RED OAK	480/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$475,000
5756 Florence Ter The Grubb Co	280/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$459,000
9520 Granada Oak Knoll, Open Sunday Better Homes	3 + 80/28A	2-4:30	\$448,000
657 Alcatraz Prudential CA Realty	280/18A	Sun 2-4:30	\$429,900
2392 Jordan Rd. Redwood Heights, Open Sunday C21 Heritage R.E.	280/18A	2-4:30	\$425,000
4864 Pleasant Valley Ct. RED OAK	380/1 + 1m	Sun 2-4	\$425,000
3854 Coolidge RED OAK	510-280-2128	Sun 2-4	\$415,000
448 McKinley St. Prudential CA Realty	280/28A	Sun 2-5	\$399,000
1716 East 38th St. Gloria Anthony	280	2-4	\$399,000
510 Aquarius Montclair, Open Sunday Better Homes	580/38A	2-4:30	\$399,000
5415 Claremont Ave. Lower Rockledge, Open Sunday Better Homes	280/18A	2-4:30	\$399,000
6239 Golf Links Rd. Prudential-Montclair	480/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$399,000
9150 Crest Ave. Oak Knoll, Open Sunday Better Homes	3 + 80/28A	2-4:30	\$396,000
2228 + 2230 + 40th Avenue Lower Laurel Prudential CA Realty	580/38A	Sun 2-5	\$394,000
444 Merritt Ave #102 Open Sunday, China Hill Kelco McDaniel	3 + 80/28A	2-4	\$375,000
2629 Cole Street West Oakland, Open Sunday Wells & Bennett	380/18A	Sun 2-4:30	\$368,000
926 Chester St. #G West Oakland, Open Sunday Coldwell Banker	180/18A	1-4:30	\$356,000
396 + 51st Street Prudential	280/18A	Sun 2-4	\$348,000
1101 Birdslair Wells & Bennett	380/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$339,000
4322 Masterson Prudential-Montclair	280/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$339,000
6824 Simson St. Open Sunday Realty World	2 + 80/28A	2-4	\$329,000
3750 Harrison St #302 Prudential	280/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$315,000
1921 Montana Street Prudential-Montclair	280/18A	Sun 2-4:30	\$309,500
8041 Wintthrop St. Prudential-Montclair	280/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$308,000
811 York St. #313 Prudential-Montclair	280/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$308,000
1161 Bayview Ave Open Sun. Kathie Berg	2 + 80/28A	2-4	\$299,000
5924 Herzog Wells & Bennett	280/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$295,000
425 Orange St #314 Wells & Bennett	280/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$292,000
3781 Lattimer Pl. Prudential-Montclair	180/18A	Sun 2-4:30	\$288,000
280 Caldecott Lane RED OAK	311	1 + 80/18A	\$288,000
280 Caldecott Lane The Grubb Co	180/18A	Sun 2-4:30	\$275,000
6415 Flora St. Open Sunday	380/28A	2-4	\$268,000
199 Montecito Ave #301 Wells & Bennett	280/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$265,000
3536 72nd Ave Wells & Bennett	280/18A	Sun 2-4:30	\$255,000
1 Kellon Ct. #7H Prudential	180/18A	2-5	\$245,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
6912 Holiday Ave. Open Sunday Better Homes	2 + 80/18A	2-4:30	\$235,000
380 Vernon St., #212 RED OAK	280/18A	Sun 2-4	\$234,900
625 El Dorado, #104 Piedmont Avenue, Open Sunday Coldwell Banker	180/18A	2-4:30	\$199,000
808 + 70th Ave. Prudential CA Realty	280/18A	Sun 2-4	\$195,000
380 Vernon, #201 Prudential-Montclair	180/18A	Sun 2-4:30	\$195,000
525 Mandana, #212 Prudential-Montclair	280/18A	Sun 2-4:30	\$194,000
22 Moss Ave #308 Wells & Bennett	180/18A	Sun 2-4:30	\$185,000
4 Fairview Ave. Open Sunday Better Homes	380/28A	2-4:30	\$185,000
213 Mountain Ave. The Grubb Co	3 + 80/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$195,000
175 Mountain Ave. The Grubb Co	480/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$199,000
340 Howard Ave. Prudential	280/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$179,000
4 Fairview Ave. Open Sunday Better Homes	380/28A	2-4:30	\$185,000

PIEDMONT

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
4 Fairview Ave. Open Sunday Better Homes	380/28A	2-4:30	\$185,000
213 Mountain Ave. The Grubb Co	3 + 80/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$195,000
175 Mountain Ave. The Grubb Co	480/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$199,000
340 Howard Ave. Prudential	280/28A	Sun 2-4:30	\$179,000
4 Fairview Ave. Open Sunday Better Homes	380/28A	2-4:30	\$185,000

PINOLE

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2693 Alhambra Thornhill Properties	3 + 71.5	Sun 2-4	\$599,000

POINT RICHMOND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
77 Vine Street Thornhill Properties	280/28A	Sun 2-4	\$688,000

RICHMOND

RICHMOND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
6342 Kensington Ave. "Two Houses, Richmond View" Marvin Gardens R.E.	180	Sun 1-4	\$488,000
6108 Plymouth Ave. Marvin Gardens R.E.	380/28a	Sun 2-4	\$439,000
108 Vista Heights Wells & Bennett RED OAK	2 + 72.5	Sun 2-4	\$348,000
2203 See Shell Dr	510-280-2115		Marvin
Open Sunday Troy Station	284/25a	2-4	\$346,000
520 + 41st Street COLUMBIAN BANKER BARTFELS-REALTORS; Reens Singh	1125a Gallagher & Lindsay		
510289-1114			
2705 Lowell Ave. Open Sun. Wendy Baldanza	2 + 80/18A	2-4	\$295,000
3434 Lowell Ave. RED OAK	510-527-7100	2-4 Marvin Gardens	
1900 Western Dr #6-3	280/18a	2-4:30	\$279,000
Open Sunday David McIntyre	510-748-1111	Gallagher & Lindsay	
1900 Western Dr #4-39	180/18a	1:30-4	\$165,000
Open Sunday David McIntyre	510-748-1111	Gallagher & Lindsay	



ALAMO

1 Alamo Springs
Three New Custom Homes Finally Available!
"You Own It To Yourself To See It" \$200,000 to \$333,000
Contact Bonnie Carter at Corner Development Corp. 925-551-7900
www.bonniecarter.com

STONE VALLEY OAKS

2 Stone Valley Oaks
From the mid \$1,000,000s. Luxurious homes, estate size
homes in Alamo's oak-studded foothills of Stone Valley Ranch.
Large homes up to 5200 sq. ft., 4-5 BR. 925-638-4230. Visit
www.stonevalleyoaks.com

ALMANOR

3 Almanor Lakeside Villas
NEW Lakeside Gated Community of Luxury Homes.
From \$595,000 by Tucker Assoc. of Alamo. 4BR + 3.5
BA. 2200 sq. ft. w/eb&h & private boat slips. Models open daily 5-5.
Cathleen Barker. 530-566-3033 or Call Center 925-734-0100
www.almanorlakesidevillas.com

AMERICAN CANYON

4 America
Now Selling! From the mid \$400,000s. Large single family
homes with up to seven bedrooms. Granite slab kitchen countertops
included in every home. High plate windows and expansive
viewing decks. Elevated lots with views to Napa and surrounding
valleys. Three floorplans from 2594 to 3768 sq. ft. American
Canyon Rd. in Broadway south to Ventana Drive east.
707-557-9494, 856-861-5555. www.youngcaliforniahomes.com

THE PRESERVE

7 The Preserve
From the mid \$400,000s. 1 and 2 story, 2778-3949 sq. ft., 3-6BR.
2-5 BA. Year 4 & 6 car gar. Near natural preserve. Napa River parks and
kids walk to school Hwy 29/West American Canyon Rd/Hummelburg
Circle 10-4. www.homesitebydavidson.com. 707-558-8366

ANTIOCH

10 Azul
From the \$300,000s. New release! Like a day at the spa. Life at
Azul is a relaxing retreat. Invigorating new designs fill these well-
crafted, 3 to 5 bedroom, 2435 to 3225 sq. ft. homes.
925-754-7888 or www.azulantioch.com

THE HILLS AT DEER VALLEY

11 The Hills at Deer Valley
New Release! Dramatic, vaulted homes from the low \$300,000s.
2042 to 2941 sq. ft. Up to 6 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3 bay garages.
angle lots. Sales Center Open Daily 10-6. Woodstock Homes Hwy 4
N. closest to Deer Valley Rd. Blue Rock to Galilee. 4027 Galilee
Way. For home information, please call 925-754-1661

THE TERRACE AT DEER VALLEY

12 The Terrace at Deer Valley
New Release! New, flexible floor plans 2115-3952 sq. ft. from
the mid \$300,000s. Up to 7 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3 bay garages.
large view lots. Woodstock Homes Hwy 4 N. closest to Deer Valley Rd.
Blue Rock to Galilee. Open Daily 10-6. 4105 Galilee
Way. For home information, please call 925-754-1661

LONE TREE ESTATES-GALILEE COLLECTION

13 Lone Tree Estates-Galilee Collection
"Final Phase Release"-From the mid \$300,000s. 2-story,
2596-3346 sq. ft., 3-6BR, 2-5 BA, 3 car gar. Eat. amenities & optional
P.O.A.C. comfort home. HOA Rec. Center. Lanes/Murwood/Darwin
Homes Open 10-6. www.lonestreehomes.com. 925-778-3092

MIRA VISTA RIDGE

14 Mira Vista Ridge
From the low \$300,000s. 5 & 6BR, up to 3600 sq. ft. with 3-
car garages. Water and hillside views. James Donnan Blvd to
Hummelburg Dr. 925-755-3535. www.miravistaridge.com

MEADOW CREEK

15 Meadow Creek
From the \$300,000s. Your choice of two communities. Single
family homes with up to 7 bedrooms and 3.5 BA. 3 car gar. Executive
homes with many options to choose from. up to 3,312 sq. ft.
Conveniently located near Hwy 4 to Deer Valley, park & shopping Hwy 4
Hillcrest past Lanes Tree left on Vista Grande 925-755-9270
www.seenhomes.com

TERRAZZA AT BLACK DIAMOND KNOLLS

17 Terrazza at Black Diamond Knolls
From the low \$400,000s. Luxurious living at its most affordable.
Ecozing new single family neighborhood with home designs up to
3410 sq. ft. 7 BDRMS + 1 1/2 BATHS. Great community location Hwy 4
east exit Lanes Tree right turn to Deer Valley, right turn to Prescott
Ranch. left on Mangrove Open Sun 10-6. Call 925-778-5307. www.richmondalmanor.com

BRENTWOOD

20 Deer Ridge
From the low \$200,000s. The game of golf meets the game of
life at Deer Ridge. Brentwood's premier master-planned
community. Located among picturesque oak-studded foothills on the
east side of Mount Diablo. Deer Ridge combines an extraordinary
range of new home opportunities and amenities in a scenic country
club setting. www.vsddeeridge.com

HEARTSHIRE

22 Heartshire
From the \$300,000s. Warmth. Homes All new home designs
ranging from 1958-3262 sq. ft. Call sales office for info. Open daily
10am-5pm. From Hwy 4 exit Balfour Rd. South. 11 on Fairview Ave. left
on Saint Creek Rd. to models lot at 1205 Jasmine Ct.
925-616-9784

MERIDIAN POINTE

27 Meridian Pointe
From the high \$300,000s. Beautifully designed craftsman-
style homes located off Fairview & Minnesota by Kiper Homes.
2502-3627 sq. ft., 4-5 BR and w/4 car gar. Amenities & optional
10am-5pm. From Hwy 4 exit Balfour Rd. South. 11 on Fairview Ave. left
on Saint Creek Rd. to models lot at 1205 Jasmine Ct.
925-616-9784

PARKVIEW AT GARIN RANCH

28 Parkview at Garin Ranch
From high \$200,000s. A collection of 6 home designs from 3 to
5BR in a master-planned setting. Open daily 10-6. Mon. 12-5
Signature Properties 925-240-1585. www.adg320.com

SHADOW LAKES

29 Shadow Lakes
From the low \$300,000s. Two new communities plus three of
the hottest selling communities in Brentwood are off the way to
Day Area. Up to 6 bedrooms, 2.5-4.5 baths, 1882-3702 sq. ft.
in within master-planned golf community. 14 models, 1-2
stones & multi-level floor plans designed by Crestone Homes.
925-616-2852. Shadowlakes.com. 925-240-7820. www.brockfieldhomes.com

TRADITIONS BY RYDER HOMES

30 Traditions by Ryder Homes
From the low \$300,000s. Models now open! Stunning
Carmichael & California traditional design. 3.5 BDRs + 1 to 2750
sq. ft. Near charming downtown, great schools & championship
golf course. Take 580 to Vasco Rd. right turn left onto Confronto
Open 11-6 daily. 925-634-0268 or www.pdshomes.com

CANYON GLEN

31 Canyon Glen
From the mid \$600,000s. Coming Summer 2002. Seven
executive homes close-in location. 5 bedrooms, 3 baths. 2500 to
2800 sq. ft. At the end of Canyon Terrace Dr. off 5 Canyons
Pkwy. For information, call Lenox Homes at 925-284-5415.
Broler.com

CONCORD

33 Parkside
Sales Info. Open Now in Pleasant Hill! From the mid
\$400,000s. Four bedroom single family homes oriented to its
own community park. Total floorplan from 1910 to 2,085 sq. ft.
1250 Mountbain Blvd. just east of I-680. Sales info center now
open at 25 Crescent Dr., #10 in Downtown Pleasant Hill. 925-
989-7977, 869-861-5555. www.youngcaliforniahomes.com

CONCORD

34 Amber Grove
From the upper \$500,000s. Exceptionally large 4 to 6
bedroom estate homes in three floorplans with up to 3,600 sq.
ft. 1-680 to Ygnacio Vly (east) left on Olive Dr. 925-827-0787
www.ambro.com

CRYSTAL RANCH

35 Crystal Ranch
Priced from the mid \$600,000s. Master Planned
community. Legacy Homes presents luxury homes in the foothills of
Mt. Diablo. 2 luxury neighborhoods. Enclave with 4 plans.
up to 4,500 sq. ft. Crystal Ranch features community clubhouse, pool,
tennis court, park. Ygnacio Valley Road East to Crystal
Ranch Dr. The Enclave 925-681-3522. The Pointe 925-611-8030
www.seenhomes.com

DANVILLE

36 Quail Gardens
MODEL HOMES NOW AVAILABLE! Our top elegant model
homes available for purchase and immediate occupancy. The
Lavender plan features 2,320 sq. ft., 4 bdrms. The Rose plan
features 2,470 sq. ft., 4 bdrms - huge lot! These spectacular homes
are located in the premiere area of Danville. Take Camino
Tassajara to Old Blackhawk Road. Castle Homes. 925-648-7954

LAKESHORE

Lakeshore
Sales Center Now Open! Two new home communities in
Discovery Bay. Reflections from the high \$300,000s (2,044-4,109
sq. ft.) and Horizonz from the low \$300,000s (1,883-3,326 sq. ft.)
Open daily 10am-5pm except Monday 1pm-5pm. 925-634-5030

EDGEWATER

Chesapeake
Extraordinary homes with approx. 2,657 to 3,068 sq. ft. Up to 5
bedrooms with 2 car garages plus bonus space. Open daily
Warrington Homes CA 925-240-1666

DUBLIN

42 Chantemare at Dublin Ranch
From the \$800,000s. By Brookfield Homes. Final Phase New
Sales Center-Crafted, 2-story family homes in Tuscan,
Mediterranean/Montecito arch styles. Up to 6BR. 4BA. approx.
3000-3600 sq. ft. Within Dublin Ranch master-planned
community. eat. Tassajara Rd. off I-580. Open daily 10-5. 925-
828-0774. www.brockfieldhomes.com

TASSAJARA MEADOWS

43 Tassajara Meadows
From the low \$500,000s. Models Open! Premier community lot
near schools, employment & a 4 car. plans. 1658-1727
sq. ft. 3-6BR, master suites, gourmet kit. from 1000-1200 sq. ft.
925-875-0071. The Mission Pkwy. 925-875-0071

RIVA

44 Riva
From the mid \$500,000s. Room to Grow. Your family will adore
the flexible floor plans as well as the abundance of natural wildlife
in the well-manicured neighborhood nestled among Dubins
rolling green hills. These homes feature 3 to 4 bedrooms and 2.5
baths up to 3,335 sq. ft. Models are open for touring 10:00 a.m.
to 5 p.m. daily. For more information, call 925-899-7330 or visit our
website at www.greentreehomes.com. Greentree Homes
Community 925-899-7330. The Premier Living Experience

DUBLIN RANCH VILLAGES

45 Dublin Ranch Villages
From the low \$300,000s. Unique to the Bay Area, this
community is comprised of four villages of luxurious townhomes
and condominiums offering more than 30 different floor plans from
840 to 2,250 square feet. Home features, 3 bedrooms, and feature
attached garages. In a fabulous location, BART, business centers,
community parks, and superb shopping are just minutes away.
Future plans include two parks and a main street featuring a
traditional village shopping area. All located within the
community. Take I-580 to Tassajara Rd. east. Turn right on
Dublin Blvd. Sales pavilion 1410 m. on the left. Open daily 11-5.
925-875-0071. www.greentreehomes.com

GLENAGEAT AT DUBLIN RANCH GOLF CLUB

45 Glenageat at Dublin Ranch Golf Club
From the \$700,000s. Perched atop the rolling hills of Dublin
Ranch, this premier community offers breathtaking views of the
Tri-Valley as well as spectacular homes in a superb location. The
community boasts single home sites and features four luxurious
bedrooms and 3 baths with feature dramatic 10-foot ceilings.
master bedrooms suites with optional soaking bathtubs, walk-in
closets and dual vanities. Open daily 11-5. 925-875-0071

ST. ANDREWS AT DUBLIN RANCH GOLF CLUB

45 St. Andrews at Dublin Ranch Golf Club
From the \$800,000s. Perched atop the rolling hills of Dublin
Ranch, this premier community offers breathtaking views of the
Tri-Valley and many home sites will overlook fairways and greens
of the 18-hole public course, which is scheduled to open in the fall
of 2003. Four elegant and spacious floorplans range in size from
3,500 to 4,000 sq. ft. and offer up to 5 bedrooms, 4.2 bathrooms
with dramatic entries, spacious family rooms, and master
bedrooms and baths. Take I-580 to Fallon Rd. east. Turn right 1 mi.
and turn right onto Bent Tree Drive. These beautiful models are
to the right and are open daily 11-5. 925-875-0071
www.dublinranchgolfclub.com

PINNACLE AT DUBLIN RANCH GOLF CLUB

45 Pinnacle at Dublin Ranch Golf Club
From the low \$1,000,000s. Pinnacle lives up to its name with
its location at the highest peak of Dublin Ranch. This gated
community boasts single home sites and features four luxurious
home designs that offer up to 6 bedrooms and 5,500 square feet.
These homes showcase two-story living, elegant two-story living
and dining rooms, optional master bedroom suites, and gourmet
kitchens with granite slab countertops and gourmet appliances.
The superb location offers spectacular views of the future Dublin
Ranch Golf Course and the Tri-Valley. Take I-580 to Fallon Rd. east.
Turn right 1 1/4 mi. to the sales center on the left. Open daily 11-5.
925-875-0071. www.dublinranchgolfclub.com

ELEVEN

45 Eleven
From the low \$400,000s. MODELS NOW OPEN! Beautiful
attached single family homes featuring 3 floor plans from
1,386 to 1,792 sq. ft. Terrific location, incredible amenities
included in these wonderful homes. Take Dougherty Road to
Confronto Drive. Castle Homes. 925-648-7954

RANSING - WHERE LIFE IS A WALK IN THE PARK!

47 Ransing - Where Life is a Walk in the Park!
From the mid \$600,000s. Walking paths and amongst 200 year old
oaks and along the banks of Tassajara Creek, down to Dublin's
famous park. But that's only the beautiful backdrop to these luxury
homes. Award-winning floor plans feature state-of-the-art kitchens,
fabulous entertaining spaces and sumptuous master suites and offer
4 to 5 bedrooms and up to 4 baths in up to 3,122 sq. ft. Models are
open daily 10-6. 5 p.m. daily. For more information, call
925-829-7330 or visit our website at www.greentreehomes.com
Greentree Homes Community 925-829-7330. The Premier Living Experience

EL DORADO HILLS

48 Sierra Vista at Serrano
Priced from the high \$400,000s. Spectacular gated community
featuring elegant homes up to 3,924 sq. ft. and 4 bedrooms
properties. 916-934-3457. Pacific Mountain Partners

FAIRFIELD

49 Lyon Falls & Lyon Brook at Woodlake
From the low \$300,000s. Two new communities in a great
location near schools, shopping and freeways. 3 & 4 bedrooms
homes available. 1,810 to 3,265 sq. ft. 707-489-9503. 707-
489-9501. Pinnacle Home Community. William Lyon Homes.

OAK HIGHLANDS AT THE RANCH

50 Oak Highlands at The Ranch
From the low \$400,000s. NOW SELLING! Large luxury
homes at junction of 680-308. 2,143-3,245 sq. ft. Open
Mon. 2-6 pm. Tue-Sun 10-6 am. Western Pacific Realty 707-683-
9528 or www.westernpacificrealty.com

FAIRFIELD

52 Southbrook
From the \$300,000s. Your choice of two communities. Single
family homes 485 bedroom plans up to 2,323 sq. ft. Executive
homes with many options to choose from. up to 3,312 sq. ft.
conveniently located near schools & shopping. Great community
location at Gold Hill Rd. off Hwy 680 or red Top Rd off I 680. 707-
864-0225. www.seenhomes.com

VISIONS AT VINTAGE GREEN VALLEY

53 Visions at Vintage Green Valley
Priced in the low \$400,000s. MODELS FOR SALE. FINAL
PHASE NOW SELLING! Spacious 4 & 5 bedroom from approx.
2,331 to 3,553 sq. ft. Flexible room options. Private Green Valley
ocean close to schools, shopping, freeways. Views of rolling
hills. Open daily 11-5. Claiton Northway 707-864-8470
www.claitonnorthway.com

THE MASTERS COLLECTION AT PARADISE VALLEY - MODELS NOW OPEN!

55 The Masters Collection at Paradise Valley - Models Now Open!
Golf Course Views 5 plans, 3,4 2-4 2-4, 1,559-3,444 sq. ft.
from \$350,000. Ask about our fine cash program. Arcadia
Development Co. 707-334-0811

HAYWARD

56 Bayview Ranch
From the low \$700,000s. Luxury 4-BR homes lot in the scenic
Hayward hills. 1 g. lots, views. Easy access to 2 BART stations &
freeways. Open daily 10-5. Mon. 1-5. 925-899-8556
www.youngcaliforniahomes.com

HERCULES

57 Promenade
From the \$400,000s. Sales start Sunday August 4th at 10am
The architecture of Historic Hercules is beautifully updated in
this exciting new neighborhood featuring Victorian, Craftsman,
and Italian-style single-family home designs ranging from 1,557-
3,879 sq. ft. Located close to shopping, employment centers,
BART and major commuter routes. Visit our off-site sales office at
1500 Sycamore Ave. Suite B-11 in Hercules. Call 510-245-3974
www.westpacchousing.com

LINCOLN

59 Ryland Twelve Bridges - Now Selling
From the high \$200,000s. 3-5 bedrooms, up to 2,383 sq. ft.
Sales Center open daily 10am-5pm, Tuesdays 12pm-5pm. Hwy
69 North on 12 Bridges Drive, turn right and follow signs to the
Sales Center. 916-408-3993. www.ryland.com

VINEYARD TERRACE

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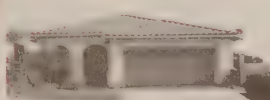
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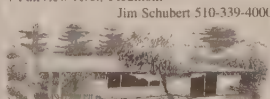
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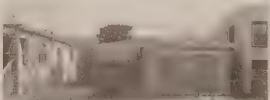
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SPORTS

• Friday, August 9, 2002 •

Section C

Box lacrosse attempts to catch on in Bay Area

■ League offers an alternative for local enthusiasts

By Mike McGreehan
STAFF WRITER

Fast-paced and intense with bumps, checks, stinging shots, amazing saves and end-to-end action that rarely stops, box lacrosse never fails to generate excitement for those who play the sport.

Box lacrosse is the six-a-side indoor version of lacrosse played on a hockey rink. And just like its outdoor cousin, it's becoming increasingly popular on the West Coast.

Every Tuesday, lacrosse enthusiasts from Marin, San Francisco, the Peninsula, the East Bay and as far away as Monterey get their fixes at the Bladium Sports Club on Alameda Point as members of the eight-team California Box Lacrosse League.

"It's a complete addiction," says Matt Field, a San Francisco resident who plays for the Marin team. "I'm going to be 40 this year and I probably still play about 40 games a year."

"It's a great time," adds league president Neal Aronson, who doubles as a player for the team called the Alcatraz Prisoners. "We all do it for the love of the game, pure and simple. It gets us out of the house and keeps us in shape."

Box lacrosse is a fun variation of its outdoor cousin, too, with balls bouncing off the boards at various angles.

The CBLL plays its entire weekly schedule at the Bladium every Tuesday. The first match begins at 7:30 p.m., and action continues until the fourth and final match has ended. This week, the teams played their final week of the regular summer season, with the top four in the standings advancing to next week's play-

offs. Surely, the most anticipated match was that of Aronson's Prisoners against the Monterey Sharks. This match would determine the top seed in the playoffs.

"Monterey beat Alcatraz for the fall division title, and this is the first rematch," Monterey's Tom Allen says. "This should be a close game."

The game wasn't nearly as close as Allen predicted — Monterey won 15-7 — but even though the players aren't professionals, all of them take their lacrosse pretty seriously. Matches can get physical and tempers will flare at times.

"We're a very competitive group," Aronson says of the league, "and people play to win. They might be friendly off the field, but they're going to be even more competitive against their friends. Sometimes things get out of control and there are scuffles. But most of the time, we're under control."

For the most part, camaraderie and mutual respect are readily apparent before and after every match.

"The camaraderie is number one (in terms of importance)," Allen says.

Mark Allman, a Baltimore native currently living in Campbell, began the league in 1985. The league received a big boost when Peter Wendell, the managing partner of an adventure capital company, got behind it.

"For four or five years, we had the league in the South Bay, then we did it in San Mateo for a while, then San Bruno — but (the Bladium) is the best facility we've had by far," Allman says.

Allman still plays in the league. So does Wendell.

"It's fun, great exercise," Wendell says. "As you get older, it's a great way to stay fit."

See LACROSSE, Page 2



WILD BUNCH'S Ken Latimore, top, catches the ball as Dustin Needham of the Yellow Dogs slides safely into second base.

Yellow Dogs, Wild Bunch keep tradition, hits coming

locals continue to meet at the softball diamond for 21 years

By Pete Elman
CORRESPONDENT

BERKELEY — "Sit down!" said 50-year-old catcher Billy Prendergast at the runner he had tagged out on a close play at plate.

Like they have most Thursday nights for the last 21 years, the members of the Yellow Dogs softball team were indulging in their passion — softball. Just for the fun

of it. Their opponent on this night, the Wild Bunch, has been at it for 33 years, and by the time of the game, these long-

time rivals will continue to do so for years to come in the Berkeley Adult Softball League.

It's a typically cool summer night at San Pablo Park in West Berkeley, the teams are playing their second game of the summer season. The Wild

Bunch had prevailed in the first game two weeks ago, 10-9, and Prendergast, for one, did not take losing lightly.

"I hate losing to these guys, because they're our rivals," said Prendergast, one of five remaining founding members. "I've always been the oldest player on the 'Dogs. I was the last guy to use a wooden bat on this team."

The Yellow Dogs were formed in 1981 and named after the Berkeley High Yellow Jackets. Ten of the current 14 players on the roster are graduates of BHS.

Manager and founder Baird Barton has played long enough to see his son Skyler join him on the field. The younger Barton, now 21, starred at Berkeley High a few years back, and plays shortstop for the 'Dogs.

Skyler, who holds the career steals record at Berkeley High, started off the game with a walk — rare in this slow-pitch game — and sprinted home from second on a base hit.

His father plays right-center field and keeps the team to-

gether, which is no mean feat. It is a labor of love, says teammate and original Yellow Dog Erik Housh.

"What makes this league happen is the managers," said Housh, a commercial real estate agent by day, a devoted little league manager half the year, and a cannon-armed left-center fielder for 40 Thursdays a year.

"Baird fronts the registration, keeps guys abreast of the schedule, makes sure we have at least 10 players for each game and does a lot to keep this thing going," added Housh, 45. "He does a great job."

"Originally we started the team with our best friends because we just wanted to play, and we needed enough players — talent was not an issue," Barton said.

The Wild Bunch, named after the classic Sam Peckinpah western, are, like the 'Dogs, mostly graduates of Berkeley High. Many of them grew up around San Pablo Park and still make the neighborhood their home.

"We started this team in 1969," said affable manager Skip Lewis, 52. "Back in the 1970s the level of play was much higher, because you had college players in the league, and all of us," he said, gesturing at his old friends in the dugout, "were a lot younger."

The league has three seasons: spring, summer and fall, each consisting of 10 regular-season and three playoff games. The Wild Bunch only play during spring and summer, and typically win the championship. They are the New York Yankees of the league, with 61 titles to their credit.

In the top of the first inning, the 'Dogs misplayed a couple of balls and the Wild Bunch capitalized on the breaks, striking for seven runs.

"Come on, guys!" yelled Housh to his teammates as they trotted back to the bench. They responded in the bottom half of the third, pushing across six runs

See RIVALS, Page 2



MARIO ENEA of the Monterey Sharks tries to avoid a defender on the Alcatraz Prisoners in a California Box Lacrosse League game.

Piedmont runner blazes to a victory in men's 10k

Many of locals finish among the leaders at the Alameda race

By Curtis Elliot
CORRESPONDENT

Many big races are diminished by a lack of local talent on the top.

Fortunately, the 21st Annual Run For The Parks 10k on Sunday in Alameda had some local talent and participation.

It was a good day to be running. The weather was very cool, with a headwind, and no sun was in sight.

Kalid Abdalah of nearby Piedmont won the men's race in a time of 29 minutes, 53 seconds, the best time since Jay Johnson's 29:52 in 1992. Melanie Coll of Fair Oaks triumphed in the women's category with a time of 34:37.

It's refreshing as the weather warms that the top five men's and women's qualifiers all live in California. Additionally, the women's own Nathan Brass-

erie came in fifth among the men. The 18-year-old Brasserie topped the male 13-18

category. Fellow locals Nick Falzone and Travis Mason, who finished second and third, respectively.

Neil Gilfedder of Alameda beat all challengers in the 30-34 bracket with a time of 33:58, and was 11th overall. Joe King won again in the senior category for males 70-95. His time was 48:17.

Alamedan women did well, too. In the 45-49 age group, Irene Fong came in first in 47:16. Alejandra Wilkins was second at 48:24, and Marishka Rosinski finished fourth with a 50:40. Corinne Roberts came in second among females 13-18, while Jane Coll finished third among 35-39 year olds.

Cleland, the women's winner, also may be considered almost a local, having trained in Alameda in the past.

"I love the course. It's a great course. The weather's awesome. I've run it once before. It's a really fast course. It's perfect running weather. This is why you run. It's nice being right there by the water. I used to live in Berkeley, and I used to train around here."

"The course is very good," said Abdalah. "Very fast. I hung



KALID ABDALAH of Piedmont heads toward the finish line en route to winning the Run for the Parks.

before. Two years ago I ran 30:24." He also won the race that year.

"My best time in track is 29:05. I'm glad for 29:53. I didn't get a good start."

Jason Perscheid of Palo Alto came in second with a time of 30:27. "The course was great. A little windy out there, but nothing you can do about that. Never run it before," Perscheid said.

See RUN, Page 2

Top dragon boat racers return to Oakland

■ Chinese culture and tradition take center stage at festivities

By Mike McGreehan
STAFF WRITER

Dragon boats trace their roots to China some 2,400 years ago. Today, the tradition continues and keeps growing.

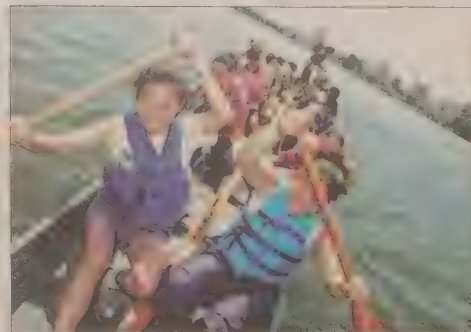
That tradition comes to Oakland this weekend. Lake Merritt is the site for this year's United States Dragon Boat Federation National Championships, which began Thursday and conclude today.

But there's more: on Saturday and Sunday, the action moves to the Oakland Estuary for the sixth annual California International Dragon Boat Festival.

For those who love dragon boat racing, Oakland surely is the place to be this weekend.

"The U.S. nationals are the *crème de la crème*, the top teams from around the nation," said Shirley Gee, president and founder of the International Dragon Boat Association of Oakland.

Those boats competing at Lake Merritt will vie for nine possible titles, the winners to represent the United States at the



JULIE AN, left, and her sister Jenny lead their boat during a Piedmont Dragon Boat practice at Lake Merritt.

world championships in Shanghai, China, next year. Paddlers (not rowers, mind you) compete in three divisions — youth, premier (open to all ages) and masters (40 and older). Each division is further separated into three categories: women, mixed and open, which is comprised primarily of men.

Overall, the event involves more than 700 paddlers, managers and coaches, and the competition promises to be intense.

"Philadelphia is sending five teams, so it's a pretty strong contingent," Gee said. "There are also teams coming in from Portland (Ore.), San Diego, Long Beach, Los Angeles, New York and a unified team from the Bay Area. The Portland women's team, Wasabi, is very, very strong. And the top youth teams are the Philly Youth Team, the Sun Dragons of Portland, Ore.,

See BOATS, Page 2

FISHING REPORT

By Curtis Pashelka

PACIFIC OCEAN

Salmon fishing remains strong here. Over the weekend on the Marin County coast, Captain Steve Bales of the New Fisherman III reported an average score of 1½ salmon per rod, with some fish weighing more than 40 pounds. On Monday, the New Fisherman III had 11 limits up to 34 pounds by 9:30 a.m. as they fell into a pocket of hungry salmon. The rest of the Bay Area fleet also fared well, as again some salmon were as heavy as 40 pounds. Scores were on the average on Tuesday, about a 1½-to-limits. Bales had 28 salmon for 18 fishermen. By Wednesday afternoon, Bales had 22 fish for 18 people, while other boats were taking home limits.

Salmon fishing was also good for Captain Bill Smith of Riptide Sportfishing and Whale Watching. There have been several days of great fishing along Muscle Rock and the pier as well as along the Marin Headlands. The wind did kick up earlier this week to slow things, but it later settled down. Smith said the wind has been good for the salmon fishing, as it keeps the water churned up. That causes a lot of the upwellings and colder water to prevail.

THE BAYS

SAN FRANCISCO: Halibut fishing remains steady here, with anglers averaging about a fish per rod. James Smith took Bay Watch to the Berkeley Flats on Tuesday and caught 21 halibut for 21 anglers. The biggest was 13 pounds. Smith said the average size of the halibut was between six and 15 pounds. The day before, Smith took the Happy Hooker out to the flats and caught 30 halibut, averaging just over a fish per rod. "It's pretty easy fishing, and the Berkeley Flats are a safe place," Smith said. "If you drop a line chances are good you'll catch something."

SUISUN: Wind has settled down this week, which of course has led to more activity on the water. The staff at McAvoy's in Pittsburg reported that Keith Yancy of Bay Point caught a 70-pound, 69-inch sturgeon at Yellow Can using ghost shrimp, and Wayne Underhill, also of Bay Point, caught a 25-pound salmon at Benicia using a Mepps 5. Big Cut and Meek's Hole are the places to go this week.

Things aren't quite as busy around Martinez Bait and Tackle. They said to head to Benicia for strippers and to the mouth of the Montezuma Slough for sturgeon. One notable catch was by Brent Brock of Pacheco, who caught a 42-pound, 56-inch sturgeon on grass shrimp at the glomar.

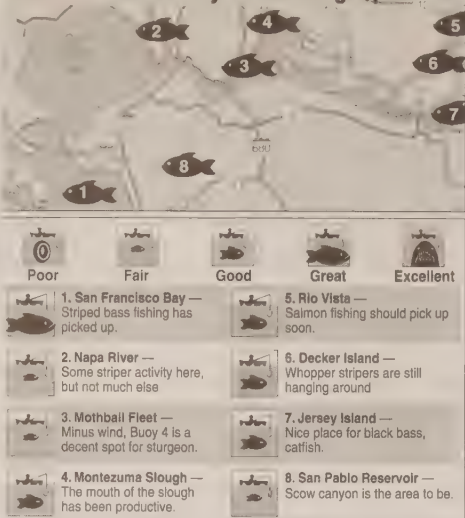
THE RIVERS

SACRAMENTO RIVER, ANDERSON TO RED BLUFF: Kirk Portocarrero of Outdoor Adventures Sport Fishing reports that fishing for king salmon has been tough this week. The average salmon is between 15-30 pounds, and they are bright chrome in color. On a good day, anglers are averaging 2-4 fish using flatfish lures and bouncing roe. Portocarrero says there are more fish to come, and that this is just the beginning of the salmon run.

SACRAMENTO RIVER, REDDING TO ANDERSON: Portocarrero says rainbow trout fishing is good. Anglers are using flatfish lures, glo-bugs and bead head fox's poopahs Nos. 16-18 and brassies, nymphing with indicators.

NAPA RIVER, VALLEJO: With

Curtis Pashelka's Bay Area fishing report



calmer water, striped activity has picked up the past week. Plenty of 12-14 pounders are being caught using live bullheads around the sunken destroyer, according to the staff at Norm's Bait and Tackle. The sturgeon bite has been slow. There's big ones out there, but they haven't too hungry as there has been a lot of bait in the water. Anglers are using grass shrimp and pile worms.

THE DELTA

Catfish have been brought in to Gotchal Bait in Antioch from all over the Delta in recent days, with bass and strippers being taken in certain spots. Holland Tract has been spitting out black bass and catfish, while Decker Island is a safe place for strippers. Joseph and Catherine Meyhoff of Pittsburg caught 5- and a 5½-pound catfish on liver, and Tony Chan of Concord caught a 11-pound black bass on powerworms at Big Break. Ernie Abenjoia of Pittsburg caught a 5½-pound striped bass at Sherman Lake on shad. Don Boehner of Concord caught a 35-pound sturgeon on shad at Rio Vista.

Audie Urbano of Hap's Bait and Tackle said wind has hampered a lot of efforts to get on the water. But anglers still are finding their way in to catch some legal sized strippers at Decker Island and Steamboat Slough. Trolling at the west bank of Decker or at the mouth of the Old Sacramento River has produced some good results. Anglers are picking up 4-8 pound strippers pulling shallow diver bombers or rebels. Catfishing is strong around the back sloughs. Clams, sardines, anchovies and nightcrawlers are the most effective baits. A few salmon are being caught near the Isleton Bridge and down to Vieira's resort, but the action is just getting started and the usual hot spots are not hot yet. The water is still muddy and the water temperature is very inconsistent due to the strong tides and the cold winds.

THE LAKES

SAN PABLO RESERVOIR, EL SOBRANTE: Scow Canyon remains a good area for just about anything — catfish, bass, crappie — although trout fishing is a real challenge these days. For trout, use

a sliding sinker rig with about 2-3 feet of leader. Add attractant to your bait. For catfish, try the launch or Tower areas, or Scow Canyon. Chicken livers, anchovies and mackerel are working well. Try the rockwall or Scow Canyon for bass. Please catch and release. Bob Miller of Concord caught a 5-pound, 9.6-ounce bass at Scow Canyon using plastic worms. Greg Coello of Walnut Creek caught a 1-pound, 6.6-ounce crappie at Scow Canyon using a jig.

LAKE DEL VALLE, LIVERMORE

Catfish are biting big right now, as anglers are averaging about 4-5 per rod. Chicken livers, mackerel and anchovies are all working. Try to soak the bait on the bottom, at a depth of no more than 15-20 feet. Bluegill and red ear sunfish are biting throughout the lake. Try soaking chunks of night crawlers under bobber. Try by the weeds and plants for them.

Bass fishing has slowed this week with just a few being caught in the early morning. The hot lure this week is the Berkley bungee worm and the wave worms. Try the weeds first thing in the morning. Please catch and release the bass because it is spawning season. Strippers have slowed down a little. Try trolling with large lures or flashers with smaller lures or night-crawlers. Trout and salmon have been very hard to catch recently.

LAKE PARDEE, IONE: Stony Creek Landing or Blue Heron Point are the best places to catch fish here. The water in those areas is deeper and cooler and the fish are holding there. Powerbait or night-crawlers are your best bait. Fishermen have been having success with kokanee this week trolling the river mouth area to the south end of the lake and around the buoy line between 40-60 feet. Catfish are still in the coves at 25-30 feet.

LAKE SHASTA, REDDING: Fishing is good here, with limits of rainbow trout being taken. They are between 2-6 pounds. Try by the Dry Creek area and the main body of lake. Anglers are using shad pattern lures. Downriggers are your best bet.

Lacrosse

FROM PAGE 1

Guys like Allman, Wendell, Field, Allen and Aronson are the veterans of the league. But the CBL is home to a younger generation of players, too.

Aaron Hopkins and Lucio Mejia, for instance, play for an Oakland-based team called Homegrown while on break from college.

"We're probably the youngest guys here," says Hopkins, a 2000 graduate of Skyline High School now at Whittier College.

Lacrosse generally is associated with guys like Allman, who moved here from East Coast cities. So how did a couple of Oakland kids get into the game?

"They had it at our junior high school — Monteria," says Mejia, a 2001 Skyline graduate who played at the University of Massachusetts last fall, but is looking to transfer to Whittier. "It was something different, something

new."

"It's nice to be playing something different that nobody knows about," Hopkins adds. "You bring them to a game, they're pretty blown away by the speed, the intensity."

Homegrown draws the late game on Tuesday, but nobody seems to mind — especially Jake Azevedo, a former player and coach at Bishop O'Dowd who bills himself as a "director" for Homegrown.

"You're seeing guys who are here to play lacrosse," says Azevedo, currently an assistant at Cal. "In three years, I got married, had a kid and bought a home — it's 10:30 at night, but here I am. I just love the game."

Azevedo is just one of many married guys involved in the league. So what do the wives think?

"(My wife) came to a box game a couple years ago," Azevedo recalls. "She didn't know what she liked less — what other guys were doing to me, or

what I was doing to her. Says Field, "You're a lacrosse fan to marry a player."

Zeal and love for the sport tend beyond players. Oakland's Zeal — a former player by injuries — These days involved as a referee.

"I've been involved in league for about 10 years," Harp, a former student teacher at Monteria (with the league) when I was at UCLA.

For all these men, their late teens to their 40s — lacrosse is a life. And every Tuesday, promise of a fix at the

Postscript

INDOOR VS. OUTDOOR: "The goals are a lot harder to score in the indoor game," says Enea of the Monteria

Rivals

FROM PAGE 1

on a string of singles to tie it.

San Pablo Park, with two diamonds, basketball courts and a community center, has quite a history, and both teams relish in the familiarity of the place. The field isn't great, but at least you can see at night — sort of.

"The field plays better now since they raised the lights and made them brighter," said Barton, a land surveyor by trade.

Lewis only plays when he's needed. On this night the Wild Bunch had a doubleheader, so he was writing up the lineup for the second game as he spoke about what makes his team a perennial winner.

"We don't even play hard until the other team makes some noise," Lewis laughed. "We're known for that."

And what keeps him involved? "Hanging out with the fellas is the fun for me. When they quit, I'll quit," he said.

Yellow Dog pitcher Jon Feller moved to Berkeley when he was 10, but now resides in Mill Valley. The weekly commute is nothing compared to the reward, he

said.

"I was an original 'Dog, and I hold the record for most years between games played," said Feller, a carpenter and contractor. "I left in 1984 because I couldn't keep up, but later I told them I wanted back in. I had to wait years to get back on the team — guys stick around. So here I am again."

Another original Yellow Dog is Dave Englund, who goes way back with Barton.

"We've known each other since we were kids," Englund said. "Our dads were roommates at Cal."

As the game wound down it was still tied 7-7, but the Bunch, as is their style, scored the go-ahead run in the fifth. Normally the games go seven innings, but sometimes they're shortened to allow the next game to start on time. This was one of those nights.

"Last inning," yelled longtime Wild Bunch first baseman Sam Scott as the teams started the sixth. Scott is a lanky, lefty slugger who excels at picking low throws to first.

The Yellow Dogs have some sluggers of their own. Peter King played for two years in the Cal-

Run

FROM PAGE 1

How did he feel in place in a race he had before? "Not really, to win. (Abdullah) is a winner. We've competed other before. I beat past. He's beaten me. It's a good workout. I'm running 100 miles a week to run really fast when I'm running 100 miles a week."

Midori Sperandio was runner-up in the while Leonard finished eighth in the and in his age group. The oldest top 50-year-old Dan Union City.

Run for Park top

Name: K. J. Abdullah
Jason Perschke
Victor Plata
Blad Poirer
Nathan Strommen
John Burke

Name: Mike Cleland
Milton Sperandio
Caitlin Chock
Mary Good
Shelly Pearson
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Boats

FROM PAGE 1

and the Bay Area Dragons (aka BAD Youth)."

Dragon boats are 50 feet long and consist of crews of 20 paddlers, seated two-by-two, 10 on the port side and 10 on the starboard. In addition, each boat has a steerer at the back and a drummer at the front who keeps the pace. A typical dragon boat race involves four to six boats. Internationally, the boats compete at distances of 250 to 1,000 meters. The races at Lake Merritt, though, will be restricted to 250 and 500 meters. Races will start from the Cameron-Stanford House on Lakeside Drive.

"It's one of the fastest-growing water sports in the world," Gee said. "It's been a demonstration in the past two Summer Olympics. (The International Olympic Committee) is being lobbied to bring it into the Olympics (as a full-medal sport)."

Dragon boating, the story goes, began when Qu Yuan, a poet and scholar in ancient China, committed suicide. Qu Yuan, a critic and foe of the corrupt Chu Dynasty, drowned himself in the Mi Lo River after many personal attacks.

But local fishermen respected Qu Yuan, considering him "upright and honest." Together, the fishermen paddled furiously to the spot where Qu Yuan went under, hoping to save him, beating the water with their paddles all the while in an effort to keep away the fish.

Though the fishermen were unable to save Qu Yuan, a tradition was born.

Today's dragon boats are generally very colorful with a dragon's mouth at the bow and

tail at the stern. Before a competition, a boat is "awakened" by "dotting the eye." A ceremony after the competition, puts the boat "back to sleep."

Dragon boat racing also is a great way to foster camaraderie. "It helps build a community within a community," Gee said. "With 20 paddlers to a boat, they get pretty tight."

The final day of competition in the U.S. nationals will get under way this morning at 8 a.m. Closing ceremony is scheduled for 5 p.m. Then, it's off to Jack London Square for competition on Saturday and Sunday.

Last year's California International Dragon Boat Festival attracted teams from China. This year, the festival won't be so international — "We're focused more on the U.S. nationals this year," Gee said. Still, some of the competitors from the U.S. nationals might hang around for the event.

Overall, this year's event will have more of a local flavor with teams from Bay Area communities grabbing much of the spotlight. The Mayor's Cup Race highlights Saturday's fun. Finals in each classification take place Sunday.

There will be one visiting boat of note.

"There's a team from Portland called 'Blind Ambition Dragons,'" Gee said. "It has maybe four sighted paddlers. Other than that, it is made up of blind paddlers."

The top boats at the California International Dragons Boat Festival are in the competitive division. Like the U.S. nationals, the event also has a youth division. Many teams will compete in the recreational division, too. Recreational paddlers will compete at the A, B or C levels, depending on their skill and expe-

rience.

The California International Dragon Boat Festival will run 9 a.m.-5 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday. A team rally takes place at 11:30 a.m. Saturday at Jack London Square. Closing ceremonies are at 5 p.m. Sunday.

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Arts



BILL MANN
Staff Writer

Anchor Shaw staying busy

WE'VE PROBABLY all missed seeing veteran Bay Area news anchor Shaw on local TV. Shaw signed off as a KRON anchor in December 2000. Her last broadcast was as an anchor at KGO-TV before that, at KGO-TV. Shaw is marked by Shaw's unrelenting and unrelenting professionalism on air. Shaw exemplified what once was more common in the news business — class. Shaw didn't spoken to Shaw in a way since the penurious Shaw later axed her tech show, "Step," and her weekly "Business Report" for a news company ended last year. Shaw left KRON to get in her family time. Shaw between the Channel 4 anchor duties and the tech show, "I was spending a big part of my day in my car," she said from her Peninsula home. Shaw has a 12-year-old daughter and a 9-year-old son, and she's enjoying immensely being with. My priority family, and it was impossible to do both work and family and do both well," Shaw says. Shaw's trademark low, husky voice. And that's why Shaw says flatly of most kids' lives. My kids like to do good things for them on Planet and The History Channel, but you have to watch TV closely. Shaw says, she's coming from a ruptured disk and writing and producing and-bolts" videos for real-estate investors. Shaw also keeping an eye out for right TV or radio gig. Shaw says "going public." Shaw mentioned that she must have gotten out of Shaw just in time, before the owners came in with big cuts — cuts that are still cutting. Shaw says there are wonderful people at KRON news. Shaw says of her long-time colleague, "And Stacy Owens (KRON's news director) has standards. The people I have done a good job in of their (corporate) news," she says. "I don't want anyone who's working harder than those people, giving their lunch and dinner breaks." Shaw says of speaking of money, when I was anchor salaries, Shaw says, "I was a long-time advocate of pay and treatment for news. Yes, I was paid but the two main co-anchors I worked with, Pete Wiland and Van Amburg? I never close to their salaries," Shaw says without rancor. Shaw says of speaking of high anchor salaries, Shaw says bluntly of Shaw's newscast, which still like it comes out of Shaw. "I see they're paying all money for window dressing — for the anchors. That's disappointing." Shaw says that when she watches CNN and goes on-line. Shaw says about another class act on TV news, Oakland's anchor Fred Zehnder left. "Shaw with sadness. 'I thought I was quite loyal to TV's 10 o'clock newscast, I don't watch it as much as for her future broadcast-ers now that her kids are growing older, she says, 'I'd like to do something appropriate.' Not, she says, on a commercial talk station, 'because I'm interested in doing something meaningful, maybe NPR.' Shaw, KQED manager, Shaw has a great radio and would do an intelligent, somewhat like that. Shaw says of Michael Krasny, When PBS's new statewide TV newscast, Shaw might be interested in it. It appears Shaw's new broadcast days



X MARKS THE SPOT: The appealing Vin Diesel stars with Asia Argento in "XXX."

Gen-X hero takes things to extremes

By Mary F. Pols
STAFF WRITER

According to the new action movie "XXX," an erudite fellow like James Bond just can't make it in the 21st century. He's too white, he can't groove to heavy metal or rap and he hasn't spent nearly enough time in tattoo parlors. As the ads for "XXX" proclaim, it's time for a new breed of secret agent.

Just to hammer this point home, "XXX" opens with a sequence of a tuxedo-clad Bond type running around Prague, trying to shake off some bad guys and escape with a coveted computer disc. He darts into a night-

REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "XXX"
■ **STARRING:** Vin Diesel, Samuel L. Jackson, Asia Argento
■ **RATING:** PG-13 (violence, non-stop action sequences, sensuality, drug content and language)
■ **RUNNING TIME:** 1 hour, 55 minutes
■ **WHERE:** Opens today at area theaters
■ **GRADE:** C

club to get lost in the crowd, but in the midst of its motorcycle-chic denizens, he stands out like

a sore thumb. Bam. Bond is dead and being tossed around the mosh pit by an oblivious crowd. Long live "XXX," the new action hero manufactured — that word is not used lightly — by director Rob Cohen ("The Fast and the Furious," "The Skulls") and writer Rich Wilkes. Xander Cage, aka XXX (Vin Diesel), an extreme sports dude with an anti-establishment attitude, makes Bond look like your mutha's idea of a spy. Next to him, even Samuel L. Jackson seems like an old fuddy-duddy.

The promise of something revolutionary in the action world is enticing indeed. From its ad-

vertising to its multicultural star, "XXX" seemed poised to deliver on that promise. For weeks now, adults have been confessing to me — albeit in whispers — that "XXX" is going to be their guilty summer pleasure. I've been nodding along with them, expecting something smart, fast, funny and different.

Instead, it's just the same old fare: maybe a bit bigger and louder, with some impressive stunts, but still plagued by clichés, sloppy production, leaps of logic, bad acting and even worse dialogue. An hour of TV's

See "XXX," Page C5

Woody Allen tackles death in Berkeley

WOODY ALLEN, no stranger to human dysfunction, once wrote a one-act play called "Death," which is probably about as dysfunctional as a body can get. It hasn't been done much around here. But Ray Couture (of Haute Couture Productions) is about to take care of the lapse.

"Death" opens next Thursday for two long weekends at Live Oak Theatre, 1301 Shattuck Ave. (at Berryman), Berkeley. The Theater Absurd presentation is directed by Sasha Litovchenko. It plays at 8 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays, with 2 p.m. matinees on Aug. 18 and 25.

Tickets are \$14 general; \$10 for seniors and students. Call 510-883-0536, or visit theaterabsurd@yahoo.com. If you happen to be in San Francisco, you can also buy tickets at the new Theater Bay Area (TBA) box office in Union Square.

Don't let the title turn you off the play.

"(It) is a rollicking Keystone Copsque comedy of errors that uses sharp one-liners and short, brilliant monologues to cast a comically critical eye on a vigilante group attempting to capture a murderer on the loose in their neighborhood," Couture says. And it wouldn't be the Woody Allen we all know, otherwise.

The protagonist is described as a logical man in a mad world; indecisive and insecure, a man who doesn't want to be involved, but is pushed to make a choice.

Will the person who just said, "That's Woody Allen, all right," please stop it. Thank you.

INTRODUCING 'POMO': If you're looking for a different theatrical experience this weekend, here's something to think about. Kularts — more about this organization later — in association with San Francisco's Yerba Buena Center for the Arts is presenting the fifth annual POMO at 8 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday.

POMO stands for Post Modern American Filipino Performance Project. The project was started in 1998 by Kularts to highlight, promote and elevate contemporary Filipino-American aesthetics. Its popularity raised it to an annual event. And here it is five years later. The program is in English



MULTIDISCIPLINARY ARTIST Gigi Otálvaro-Hormillosa performs excerpts from her solo work "Cosmic Blood" next weekend at the fifth annual POMO at Yerba Buena Center.



JACK TUCKER
Community Theater

with some Tagalog words. Now about Kularts. It was founded in 1985 to broaden the understanding of Filipino-American culture. But it cast a wider net than aesthetics and nurturing the development of Filipino-American artists. It is also interested in addressing contemporary issues in the community, and preserving the spirit and integrity of ancient Filipino art forms.

So, for two performances only, Kularts and POMO are bringing San Francisco-based multidisciplinary artist Gigi Otálvaro-Hormillosa to perform excerpts from her solo work "Cosmic Blood."

The program will also include poet/playwright Melinda Corazon Foley, with Michelle Ferrer and Mariel Flores Viñalon, in excerpts from "Coconut Masquerade." This full-length, eight-character drama written in rhythmic verse arises from the hidden shames of a mixed-race family, and the struggles to expose these shadows to the light. Segments of the play have been brought to New York, Washington, D. C., Chicago, Los Angeles, London and a venue in Denmark.

Foley's original work has also been presented at La Peña Cultural Center in Berkeley and at San Francisco's Asian American Theater Company.

Also on the bill is the Los Angeles spoken word ensemble trio zero 3, featuring Kennedy Kabasares, Traci Kato-Kiriyama and Edren T. Sumagaysay, "Exploring," as the billing says, "the planes of human struggle, fantasy, humor and the mundane trudge

through everyday life. . . . Yerba Buena Center for the Arts is at Mission and 3rd Streets in San Francisco. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door, and \$13 per ticket in advance for groups of 10 or more. Call 415-978-2787.

MARIN SHAKES BECK
ONS: If you want to do a bit of traveling in the other direction — San Rafael, to be precise — here's a quick look at the 2002 Marin Shakespeare Company's current offerings, now in full swing.

"A Thousand and One Arabian Nights" plays in repertory with "Much Ado About Nothing" at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 4 p.m. Sundays through Aug. 25. You'll have to call ahead to find out which show is playing on specific dates.

"Macbeth — The Scottish Play" opens Sept. 6 and plays the same days of the week and same times as the repertory duo. "Macbeth" also has a 11 a.m. Sunday show for students.

"Macbeth," directed by Robert Currier, is staged with a stylized, rock-star, futuristic, high-fashion look. It features Scott Coopwood, Susan Wilder and Marcia Pizzo.

The world premiere adaptation of the "Arabian Nights" production, adapted and directed by Lesley Schischgal Currier, features original Arabic music composed and performed by Vince Delgado and others.

"Much Ado," Shakespeare's witty battle of the sexes, is set in the romantic Empire period. James Dunn directs.

All shows play at the Forest Meadows Outdoor Amphitheatre, located on Grand Avenue, Dominican University, San Rafael. Warm clothing, jackets and blankets recommended for evening performances.

Tickets are \$22 general; \$20 for seniors 65 and over, and \$12 for youths 18 and under. Call 415-499-4488, or visit www.marinshakespeare.org.

Jack Tucker's column runs Fridays in the West County Weekly. Send items of interest to him c/o the West County Times, 4301 Lakeside Drive, Richmond, CA, 94806; fax to 510-262-2776; e-mail to jtucker@ccetimes.com, or call 510-262-2768. Include a contact name and number.

EVENTS

GENERAL

BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY — "Poetry in the Plaza: Freedom of Expression Day" Aug. 10, 2:30 p.m. Featuring Marvin K. White, Sharon Doubiago, Lucha Corpí, Chinaka Hodge and Nacy Rawiyah Johnson. Dedicated to activist poet, professor and founder of "Poetry for the People," June Jordan. Tour for Blind and Low Vision Patrons Aug. 17, 10:30 a.m. An orientation and an hour-long tour of the new Central Library building specifically for blind and low vision patrons. 2090 Kittredge St. 510-649-3964. Berkeley 510-644-6100 or www.infopeo.org/bpl.

OAKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY — MAIN BRANCH — Main Library 125 14th St. 510-238-3615. www.oaklandlibrary.org. **GOLDEN GATE BRANCH** — "Toddler Lapsit," third and fourth Saturday, 10:30 a.m. Time for stories, songs, rhymes, finger plays and more. For age 6 months to 3 1/2 and their parents or caregivers. 5606 San Pablo Ave. 510-597-5023. **WEST OAKLAND BRANCH** — "Chess Workshop for Children," 4 p.m. to 5:20 p.m. 1801 Adeline St. 510-59-1000. Free Oakland 510-238-1000. www.oaklandlibrary.org.

CODY'S BOOKSTORES — FOURTH STREET — Debra Ginsberg, Aug. 9, 7 p.m. The author talks about "Raising Blaze: Bringing Up an Extraordinary Son in an Ordinary World." Parenting Book Club, Aug. 11, 11 a.m. A discussion of "Liberated Parents: Liberated Children: Your Guide to a Happier Family." 1730 Fourth St. 510-559-9500. Free Readings at 7:30 p.m. unless noted otherwise. Berkeley.

THE STARRY PLOUGH — "The Berkeley Poetry Slam," Wednesdays, 8:30 p.m. Poets should arrive at 7:30 p.m. to sign up. The first Wednesday of the month is "Chicken Grease!" hosted by Nazelah Jamison and Karen Ladson with spinning by DJ Funklor. All other Wednesdays are "The Berkeley Slam," hosted by Charles Elik and dani alymone with music by Three Blind Mice. For ages 21 and over after 10 p.m. \$5. 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-435-1665.

DUNSMUIR HOUSE AND GARDENS — through Sept. 25. Nestled in the Oakland hills, the 40-acre Dunsmuir House and Gardens estate includes the 37-room Neoclassical Revival Dunsmuir Mansion, built by coal and lumber baron Alexander Dunsmuir for his bride. Restored outbuildings set amid landscaped gardens surround the mansion. Tours of the Mansion, Wednesday, 11 a.m. to noon. Docents will lead visitors on a guided tour of the 37-room mansion and the estate's historic landscaping. Wear low-heeled shoes; no high heels allowed in the mansion. \$5 general; \$4 seniors, free children ages 13 and under. "Family Sundays," through Sept. 1, noon to 3 p.m. Enjoy a guided entertainment including puppetry, magic, music and dancing. Afternoon programs include docent-led tours of the Dunsmuir Mansion and self-guided garden tours. \$5 general; \$4 seniors and children ages 14 to 18; free children ages 13 and under. 2960 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland 510-615-5555.

RINGLING BROS. AND BARNUM AND BAILEY — Aug. 14 through Aug. 18. "The Greatest Show On Earth," featuring David Larible, Sara the Tiger Whisperer and T.M. the Gator Guy. \$10.75 to \$50. Oakland Arena, Hegenberger Road and Interstate 880. Oakland 510-762-2277 or www.ticketmaster.com or www.ringling.com. **TATTOO THE EARTH** — Aug. 9 through Aug. 11. The biggest tattoo event in the United States features 200 international award-winning tattoo artists. \$20 day pass, \$50 three-day pass. Oakland Arena, Hegenberger Road and Interstate 880. Oakland 415-478-2277 or 510-762-2277.

BERKELEY ARTS FESTIVAL — Opening Day, Aug. 10, noon to 6 p.m. Downtown Berkeley will be transformed into a performance space. Activities include poetry readings, storytelling, street performers, information on alternative transportation and creek daylighting, and music. Free. Center Street between Milvia and Oxford Streets, Berkeley 510-665-9496 or www.berkeleyartsfestival.com.

THE SIXTH ANNUAL SCENE ON THE STRAIT — Aug. 10 and Aug. 11. Art and nature enthusiasts will be able to meet and observe nationally renowned artists painting on location. Featuring food, live music and education on the natural history of the Carquezz Strait. Free. Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Martinez regional Shoreline, north end of Ferry Strait. Martinez 510-544-2631 or www.ebparks.org.

PACIFIC CRYSTAL GUILD — The Great Contra Costa Crystal Fair, Aug. 10 and Aug. 11. Featuring crystals, minerals, beads, jewelry and healing arts. \$3 general; free youths under age 12. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Civic Park Community Center, Civic Drive and Broadway, Walnut Creek. 415-383-7837 or www.crystallfair.com.

INTERNATIONAL DRAGON BOAT ASSOCIATION — The Sixth Annual California International Dragon Boat Festival, Aug. 10 and Aug. 11. Featuring dragon boat races, arts and crafts, performances on the cultural stage and closing ceremonies to honor the winners. Jack London Square, foot of Washington Street, Oakland 510-452-4272 or www.adragon.org.

BERKELEY ARTS FESTIVAL — West Berkeley Arts Walking Tour, Aug. 18, 1 p.m. A stroll from the Ecology Center, through Eighth Street Studios/Sawtooth Building with visits to the studios of Allison Antelman through to Rountree's Bar and Rhythm and Blues Museum. Free. Meet at Ecology Center, 2530 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley 510-665-9496.

NOW PLAYING

Below are capsule reviews of movies playing at area theaters. The reviewers are Pat Craig and Mary F. Pols. Times: Robert W. Butler, Knight Ridder Newspapers; Glenn Lovell, San Jose Mercury News; Anthony Breznican, David German, Christy Lemire, Tim Molloy, Sheila Norman-Culp, Malcolm Ritter and Matt Wolf, Associated Press; Jan Stuart, Newsday; Stephen Holden, Dave Kehr, Elys Mitchell, A.O. Scott and Lawrence Van Gelder, New York Times; Valerie Kulkenski, Fred Shuster, Bob Strauss and Glenn Whipp, Los Angeles Daily News; Kevin Thomas and Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times; Gary Dowell, Tom Maustadt, Chris Vogner and Philip Wuntch, Dallas Morning News; Robert Philpot, Fort Worth Star-Telegram; and Roger Moore, Orlando Sentinel.

"ATANARJUAT": In ancient Inuit communities, there were no policemen, no FBI agents and no government officials. If trouble came to an Arctic village, the community had no choice but to cope with the "evildoers" on its own. This Canadian movie (translates to "The Fast Runner") is based on an Inuit legend about two brothers, the Fast Runner and the Strong One, who are marked for death by the forces of evil, and must grapple with the consequences to their community. Marks the first chance we've had to see a movie filmed with Inuit actors, entirely in the spectacular Arctic. But the movie, at nearly three rather uneventful hours, is in need of a trim. — M. Pols. (NR; includes a scene of lovemaking and several of violence; nudity) 2 hours, 52 minutes. B

"AUSTIN POWERS IN GOLDMEMBER": The third installment in the ongoing saga of Austin Powers, superspy, is a heartily amusing, crude night at the movies, either more or less entertaining than either of its two predecessors. There are reams of celebrity

cameos in this one, involving Very Big Stars. Try not to find out who they are beforehand, you'll have more fun that way. Michael Caine makes a fitting Daddy Austin, Mini-Me is just absurd this time around, the jokes are just as crude and not always funny, but — what a blessing — Austin Powers doesn't drink Fat Bastard's poop. And at the end of round three, we have to concede that Mike Myers, unrecognizable in his latest guise as Dutch villain Goldmember, is indeed a comic genius. — M. Pols. (PG-13: for sexual innuendo, crude humor and language) 1 hour, 20 minutes. B

"BARAN": The first half-hour or so of the film mostly takes place at a grimy Tehran construction site. The construction crew is made up of Afghan refugees and Iranian workers, who resent having to split their salaries with the Afghans, even though the refugees are far lower-paid. After an older Afghan breaks his leg in a fall, he sends an adolescent son, Rahmat (Zahra Barami), to get a job at the site. Rahmat, who is small, frail and silent, overcomes the foreman's skepticism but still struggles with the heavy lifting. Meanwhile, Lateef (Hossein Abedini), a cheerful but short-tempered young Iranian, loses his job as the site's tea boy to Rahmat. Resentful at having to do harder labor, Lateef threatens Rahmat and plays practical jokes on him until he discovers a secret about Rahmat, which turns Lateef from tormentor into protector and benefactor. — R. Philpot. (PG; language, brief violence) 1 hour, 39 minutes. A-

"THE BOURNE IDENTITY": Director Doug Liman ("Swingers," "Go") revitalizes the thriller genre with this brisk adaptation of Robert Ludlum's novel about a spy with amnesia. Matt Damon makes a very fine Jason Bourne, conveying both his strengths (marital

arts, ruthless planning, excellent language skills) and his weaknesses (disorientation, desperation about his future, and a soft spot for kids that no spy should ever have). "Run Lola Run" star Franka Potente plays his love interest, and the chemistry between the two of them seems genuine. The script is intelligent, the story engaging and there's never a dull moment. Hallelujah! — M. Pols. (PG-13: violence and some language) 2 hours, 1 minute. A-

"THE COUNTRY BEARS": The historic Country Bear Hall, former home to the popular Country Bears band that broke up a decade ago, is on the verge of being torn down by an evil banker (Christopher Walken). Meanwhile, a furry "boy" named Beary, raised in a human household, wonders why he feels so different and sets out to find the musical icons with whom he identifies. Days before the wrecking ball is to arrive, Beary and head bear Henry get the old tour bus out of mothballs to round up other group members for a concert to save the hall. The growing group is pursued by a pair of yodel police officers (Daryl "Chill" Mitchell and Diedrich Bader) who believe the musicians have kidnapped Beary. — V. Kulkenski. (G) 1 hour, 28 minutes. B

"THE CROCODILE HUNTER: COLLISION COURSE": Steve Irwin, Mr. "Don't try this at home!" makes a terrific, kid-friendly big-screen debut. The movie surrounding him is as lame as the three-legged dingo, but the heroic goobal naturalist shines in a comedy that entertains as it teaches us about the killer critters Down Under. The hero's plot has a satellite film canister crashing in the Outback. A croc eats it. Competing U.S. intelligence agencies want it. And all Steve wants to do is keep the croc from being shot by rancher Broozie, played by Babe the

pig's farmer mom, Magda Szubanski. "Wild Kingdom" was never this much fun. Irwin is a hoot. And his rough-and-ready cheerfulness makes a great argument for Aussies being the last Real Men on Earth. — R. Moore. (PG: action violence, danger, mild language) 1 hour, 30 minutes. B

"DIVINE SECRETS OF THE YA-YA SISTERHOOD": Director Calie Khouri's adaptation is more restrained than Rebecca Wells' overwritten book, but it's still soaked in enough gushy sentimentality to give the practical-minded (and most men) hives. Playwright Sidda Wells (Sandra Bullock) feuds with her difficult, alcoholic mother Vivi (Ellen Burstyn), and mom's hard-drinking best friends, Teensy (Fionnuala Flanagan), Charo (Maggie Smith) and Necie (Shirley Knight), intervene to patch things up. They give Sidda a crash course in what made Vivi who she is — including a tour of her world, where she's played by a very fine Ashley Judd. There's some interesting material here about ambitious women trapped by marriage and motherhood, but this still feels like one long, gabby therapy session. — M. Pols. (PG-13: mature thematic elements, language and brief sensuality) 1 hour, 56 minutes. C

"THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING": A soulful, passionate giant of a movie, one that will live long past 2001. New Zealand director Peter Jackson's ("Heavenly Creatures") adaptation of the first third of J.R.R. Tolkien's epic "Lord of the Rings" enraptures you with its dramatic storytelling and visuals and leaves you rejoicing that there are filmmakers out there who have the guts to make a movie destined for vast commercial success that's also intelligent and ferociously heartfelt. Terrifying when it should be, moving when it should be, this holds true to Tolkien's vision. One of the best movies of the year. — M. Pols. (PG-13: epic battle sequences and scary images) 2 hours, 58 minutes. A

"GANGSTER NO. 1": The unsettling rhythms of Paul Bettany, David Thewlis and Malcolm McDowell help this crisp, tart and often infuriating British crime film fall squarely into the tradition of British noirs. Bettany plays the Young Gangster who calculatingly eyes kingpin Freddie Myers (Thewlis), for whom he has come to work in a kind of management-trainee position. Yes, "Gangster" is "All About Eve" with shoulder holsters and a crucial twist. Young Gangster's covetousness seems to grow out of his knowledge that he is second-rate; his aspiration to become the real thing is the motor that keeps him going. The psychological underpinnings give this picture a charged emotional atmosphere. — E.

Mitchell. (R; language, sex, violence) 1 hour, 43 minutes. B+

"ITALIAN FOR BEGINNERS": Strangest of surprises, the latest of felling from Dogma 95, the Danish film movement more known for being disturbing than for being cheery, introduces the concept of love and happiness to the movement. Six lonely people take Italian lessons one winter in Copenhagen and begin, tentatively, to gravitate toward each other. Not a traditional chick flick, though; it's got its fair share of depressing elements, such as death, addiction, fetal alcohol syndrome and sexual dysfunction, buried within the froth of love and comedy. And it's inescapably a Dogma movie: murky and drab. But it's still got the heart to warm us through the chill of winter. — M. Pols. (R; language and some sexuality) 1 hour, 39 minutes. A-

"K-19: THE WIDOWMAKER": The gloomiest movie of the summer, a worthy but ponderous submarine flick that might as well be called "Das Dreary Boat." Based on a real-life Cold War incident in which a Russian nuclear sub faced a catastrophic meltdown just off the East Coast during the summer of 1961. Featuring Harrison Ford, intermittently assuming a Russian accent, and at his glummed ever as the captain of the ill-fated vessel. Since Ford at his glummed exudes more misery than a pharmacy full of people waiting for an overdue Prozac shipment, that's a hard cross for any audience to bear. And this is a long movie. — M. Pols. (PG-13: disturbing images) 2 hours, 18 minutes. C+

"LIKE MIKE": Bow Wow stars in this somewhat successful cross between "Annie" and an NBA promotional. The charismatic singer plays a 13-year-old orphan who inherits a pair of magical sneakers that transform him into an NBA sensation. Morris Chestnut co-stars as a player in a slump who shows Bow Wow the NBA ropes, and rekindles his own love for the game as well. Like its star, "Like Mike" is appealing, but the film itself is predictable and lacks 3-D characters. — C. Rickey. (PG: brief mild language) 1 hour, 40 minutes. C+

"LILO & STITCH": With so many 3-D offerings, this latest Disney release is here to remind audiences of the pure pleasures of flatness. It's happy/cool/weird in ways only a cartoon can be. Underneath all that cartoon craziness, however, some real emotions flash. Lilo (Daveigh Chase) is a young Hawaiian girl feeling disconnected since she and her older sister, Nani (Tia Carrere), lost their parents. Stitch, the freakish creation of an evil alien scientist, has escaped to

Earth, but the pursuit of Stitch as a ugly little creature else would want and the friendship that blooms from about life. — T. Maurer. (action) 1 hour, 25 minutes.

"LOVELY & AMAZING": For Nicole Holofcener's up to "Walking and Talking" and telling moments. Too much, just the travels of modern-day women trying their way in image-conscious gales. Catherine Keener despicably self-winding while her co-stars Ellen, Brenda Blethyn, playing sister and silly, van movie to do a fine job as well. — M. Pols. (R; language and some sexuality) 1 hour, 39 minutes.

"MEN IN BLACK II": Sonnenfeld has tackled to his surprise 1997 box "Men in Black" much to bound man determined anything out of his duty case with any overture more is occasionally — some extras in there to be godsenders. The but do you really care? Jones and Will Smith delight, the pace is intriguing the Flynn (Bogart) subtly as there are some nifty on. I wouldn't mind seeing P. Pols. (PG-13: soft action and some provocative) 1 hour, 28 minutes. B

"MINORITY REPORT": movie, but plenty good right now. Tom Cruise live in 2054, who rewrites notions of three "pre-cog" murders before they have caught in his own trail them (Samantha Morton as a future murderer, a cell as a Department sent to investigate the apartment. Born from a sci-fi writer Philip K. Do such, sings a strong Brother oppression Bur cloak of futuristic danger heart of director Steven tender, fatherly and apt plot thins at the end but

See REVIEWS

FRIDAY MOVIE LISTINGS

Showtimes for Friday August 9
Aurora Cinema

Act 1 and 2
 2126 Center Street, Berkeley 510-843-3456
 •The Fast Runner (Atanarjuat) (Not Rated) 7:30
 •My Wife Is an Actress (R) 7:15, 9:30.

Albany Twin
 1155 Solano Ave., Albany 510-843-3456
 •Lovely & Amazing (R) 12, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40
 •Tadpole (PG-13) 12:15, 2:40, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40

California Theatre
 2115 Kennedy St., Berkeley 510-843-3456
 •Austin Powers in Goldmember (PG-13) 12:30, 2:45, 5:15, 7:30, 9:40
 •Men in Black II (PG-13) 4:15, 9:40
 •Sex and Lucia (Not Rated) 1, 4, 6:45, 9:20
 •Sunshine State (PG-13) 1:15, 6:30

Chabot Space & Science Center
 10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland 510-336-7300
 •The Living Sea (Not Rated) 11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30
 •Mysteries of Egypt (Not Rated) 12:30, 2:30, 5
 •To Be an Astronaut (Not Rated) 10:30.

Elmwood 3
 2666 College Ave., Berkeley 510-649-0530
 •About a Boy (PG-13) 2:35, 7:10
 •Italian for Beginners (R) 3, 7:10
 •The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (PG-13) 12:30, 4
 •Me Without You (R) 12:45, 5, 9:15
 •Notorious C.H.O. (Not Rated) 7:30, 9:30
 •Spider-Man (PG-13) 12:15, 4:45, 9:05

Fine Arts Cinema
 2451 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-848-1143
 •Theatre temporarily closed.

Renaissance Grand Lake Theatre
 3200 Grand Avenue, Oakland 510-452-3556
 •Austin Powers in Goldmember (PG-13) 1:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
 •Blood Work (R) 12:30, 2:30, 5:30, 7:30, 10
 •Road to Perdition (R) 12:30, 3:30, 6:45, 9:15
 •Signs (PG-13) 11:30, 2:40, 7:30, 9:30

Jack London Cinema
 1100 Washington, Oakland 510-433-1320
 •Austin Powers in Goldmember (PG-13) 11:30, 2:40, 4:40, 7:20, 9:55
 •Martin Lawrence Live: Runteldat (R) 11:40, 2:15, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05
 •The Master of Disguise (PG) 12:45, 3, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50
 •Signs (PG-13) 11:10, 12:10, 1:45, 2:45, 4:40, 5:20, 7, 8, 9:35, 10:35
 •Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams (PG) 11:20, 1:50, 4:30, 7:05, 9:30
 •Stuart Little 2 (PG) 11, 1:10, 3:30, 5:45
 •XXX (PG-13) 10:30, 12:15, 1:20, 3:15, 4:15, 6:40, 7:10, 7:45, 9:40, 10:15, 10:45

Renaissance Oaks Theatre
 1875 Solano Avenue, Berkeley 510-526-1836
 •Read My Lips (Not Rated) 7:15, 9:45
 •Road to Perdition (R) 7:30

Parkway Theater
 1834 Park Blvd., Oakland 510-814-2400
 •About a Boy (PG-13) 7
 •Eight Legged Freaks (PG-13) 9:45
 •Minority Report (PG-13) 6:30, 9:30

Piedmont Theatre
 4186 Piedmont Ave. Oakland 510-843-3456
 •Full Frontal (R) 12, 2:40, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40
 •My Big Fat Greek Wedding (PG) 1:45, 4:15, 7, 9:15
 •Tadpole (PG-13) 12:10, 2:30, 5:40, 7:30, 9:30
 •Shattuck Cinema
 2220 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-843-3456
 •Blood Work (R) 1:15, 4, 6:45, 9:15
 •Full Frontal (R) 2, 4:30, 6:55, 9:40
 •The Kid Stars in the Picture (R) 12:40, 2:50, 5:05, 7:15, 9:30
 •Martin Lawrence Live: Runteldat (R) 12:45, 2:55, 5:10, 7:20, 9:35
 •Monsoon Wedding (R) 1:50, 4:20, 7:05
 •My Big Fat Greek Wedding (PG) 2:10, 4:25, 6:35, 8:55
 •Rivers and Tides (Not Rated) 12:35, 2:40, 4:45, 6:50, 9
 •Sade (Not Rated) 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:50
 •XXX (PG-13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:15, 4:15, 6, 7, 8:45, 9:45
 •y Tu Mamá También (Not Rated) 9:55

United Artists Berkeley
 2274 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-843-1487
 •The Bourne Identity (PG-13) 11:20, 2:15,

5, 7:40, 10:30
 •The Master of Disguise (PG) 11:10, 1:20, 3:35, 5:50, 7:50, 10
 •Minority Report (PG-13) 12:15, 3:30, 7, 10:15
 •Signs (PG-13) 11, 12, 1:45, 2:45, 4:40, 5:30, 7:15, 9:15, 10:05, 10:50
 •Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams (PG) 11:30, 2:45, 7:10, 9:45
 •Stuart Little 2 (PG) 11, 1, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:50

United Artists Emery Bay 10
 6330 Christie, Emeryville 510-420-0107
 •Austin Powers in Goldmember (PG-13) 11:30, 2:45, 7:30, 10, 12:30
 •Blood Work (R) 11, 1:40, 4:20, 7, 9:50, 12:30
 •Martin Lawrence Live: Runteldat (R) 11, 1:30, 4:15, 7, 9:45, 12:30
 •The Master of Disguise (PG) 11:15, 1:30, 3:45, 5:55, 8:15, 10:20
 •Road to Perdition (R) 11:15, 2:45, 7:40, 10:30
 •Signs (PG-13) 11, 11:45, 1:45, 2:30, 4:30, 5:15, 7:15, 8, 10, 10:45, 12:30
 •Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams (PG) 11:30, 2:15, 5, 7:45, 10:30
 •XXX (PG-13) 10:50, 1:10, 1:50, 4:10, 4:50, 7:10, 7:50, 10:10, 10:45, 12:35

Central Contra Costa

Renaissance Orinda Theatre
 4 Orinda Theatre Sq., Orinda 925-254-9060
 •Blood Work (R) 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
 •Road to Perdition (R) 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:15
 •Signs (PG-13) 1, 4, 7, 9:30
Renaissance Park Theatre
 3519 Golden Gate Way., Lafayette 925-283-7997
 •My Big Fat Greek Wedding (PG) 7, 9:15

Rheem Theatre
 350 Park St., Moraga 925-988-3411
 •Austin Powers in Goldmember (PG-13) 12:30, 2:45, 5, 7:30, 9:30
 •K-19: The Widowmaker (PG-13) 8
 •Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams (PG) 12:30, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:20
 •Stuart Little 2 (PG) 12:45, 2:20, 4:30, 6:15
 •XXX (PG-13) 1, 4, 7, 9:35

West Contra Costa

Century 16 Hilltop
 3200 Ross Way Richmond 510-758-2345
 •Austin Powers in Goldmember (PG-13) 12:25, 2:55, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
 •Blood Work (R) 11:15, 1:50, 4:30, 7, 9:35, 10:20
 •The Country Bears (G) 11:30, 1:40
 •Martin Lawrence Live: Runteldat (R) 11:20, 12:20, 1:55, 2:45, 4:15, 5:05, 6:40, 7:35, 9:15, 10:05
 •The Master of Disguise (PG) 11:45, 1:55, 3:55, 6:15, 8:20, 10:20
 •Men in Black II (PG-13) 7:15, 9:25
 •Road to Perdition (R) 12:5, 4:20, 7:05, 10
 •Signs (PG-13) 11:35, 12:15, 2:15, 2:50, 3:50, 4:45, 5:20, 6:50, 7:20, 7:50, 8:50, 9:20, 9:55, 10:25
 •Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams (PG) 11:25, 12:10, 12:45, 1:45, 2:30, 3:05, 4:05, 4:50, 5:25, 7:55, 10:15
 •Stuart Little 2 (PG) 11:05, 1:05, 3:10, 5:15
 •XXX (PG-13) 11, 11:55, 12:40, 2, 2:40, 3:45, 5, 5:45, 6:30, 7:10, 7:45, 8:45, 9:45, 10:35

San Francisco

AMC Van Ness 14
 1000 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco 415-922-4262
 •Austin Powers in Goldmember (PG-13) 11:30, 1:30, 2:30, 4, 4:45, 6:30, 7:30, 9, 10, 11:30, 12:15
 •Blood Work (R) 12:35, 3:10, 5:45, 8:30, 11:15
 •The Bourne Identity (PG-13) 7:15, 10, 12, 4:5
 •K-19: The Widowmaker (PG-13) 12:20, 4:15
 •Martin Lawrence Live: Runteldat (R) 1:15, 4, 6:30, 9, 11:30
 •The Master of Disguise (PG) 12:45, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45, 12
 •Men in Black II (PG-13) 12, 2:10, 4:20
 •Minority Report (PG-13) 6:30, 9:40, 12:50
 •Road to Perdition (R) 12:15, 1, 3:30, 7:15, 10, 10
 •Signs (PG-13) 12:15, 1, 2:45, 3:45, 5:30, 7, 8:15, 9:45, 11, 12:15
 •Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams (PG) 12, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10:30
 •Star Wars: Episode II - Attack of the Clones (PG) 1:15, 4:15, 7:30, 10:30
 •XXX (PG-13) 12:30, 1, 2, 3:30, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11

AMC Kabuki 8
 1881 Post Street, San Francisco 415-931-9800
 •Austin Powers in Goldmember (PG-13) 12:15, 2:30, 4:20, 7:50, 10:10
 •Blood Work (R) 1, 4:10, 7, 9:55
 •The Master of Disguise (PG) 12:35, 3:05, 5:30, 8, 10, 10:15
 •Men in Black II (PG-13) 7:20, 9:45
 •Minority Report (PG-13) 12:45, 4, 7:10, 10:30
 •Road to Perdition (R) 1:10, 4:20, 7:30, 10:25
 •Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams (PG) 12, 2:35, 5:10, 8, 10:40
 •Stuart Little 2 (PG) 12:25, 2:40, 4:55
 •XXX (PG-13) 1:25, 4:35, 7:40, 10:40

Bridge Theatre
 3010 Geary Blvd., San Francisco 415-352-0818
 •Sex and Lucia (Not Rated) 1:30, 4:15, 7, 9:40

Castro Theatre
 429 Castro St., San Francisco 415-621-6120
 •Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars (PG) 7, 9, 11

Clay Theatre
 2261 Fillmore Street, San Francisco 415-352-0810
 •My Wife Is an Actress (R) 2:20, 4:40, 7, 9:20

Embarcadero Center Cinema
 1 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco 415-352-0810
 •The Kid Stars in the Picture (R) 12, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40
 •Lovely & Amazing (R) 12:10, 2:20, 4:40, 7, 9:15
 •Monsoon Wedding (R) 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45
 •Tadpole (PG-13) 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:30, 9:30
 •y Tu Mamá También (Not Rated) 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10

Lumiere Theatre
 1572 California St., San Francisco 415-352-0810
 •13 Conversations About One Thing (R) 12, 2:15, 4:30, 7, 9:30
 •Me Without You (R) 12:30, 2:45, 5, 7:20, 9:45
 •Sade (Not Rated) 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10, 9:45

Opera Plaza Cinema
 601 Van Ness Blvd., San Francisco 415-352-0810
 •The Diaries of Vaslav Nijinsky (Not Rated) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:50
 •The Fast Runner (Atanarjuat) (Not Rated) 1, 4:30, 8
 •Happy Times (PG) 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:40
 •Notorious C.H.O. (Not Rated) 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 9:45

The Red Vic Theatre
 1727 Haight St., San Francisco 415-668-3994
 •Dogtown and Z-Boys (PG-13) 7:15, 9:15

The Roxie Theatre
 3117 18th St., San Francisco 415-863-1081
 •Rivers and Tides (Not Rated) 6, 8, 10, 7:40

Loews Theatres Metreon
 101 Fourth St., San Francisco 415-389-6200
 •Austin Powers in Goldmember (PG-13) 10:50, 12:20, 1:30, 2:50, 4:10, 5:40, 7, 8:20, 9:40, 11, 12
 •Blood Work (R) 1, 4, 7, 10, 10:20
 •The Bourne Identity (PG-13) 8:10, 11:20
 •K-19: The Widowmaker (PG-13) 10:30
 •Martin Lawrence Live: Runteldat (R) 12:40, 3:10, 6:10, 9:10, 11:40
 •The Master of Disguise (PG) 11:40, 2, 4:20, 6:40, 9:20, 11:50
 •Men in Black II (PG-13) 12, 2:30, 5:10, 7:40
 •Minority Report (PG-13) 11:50, 3, 6:20, 9:50
 •Road to Perdition (R) 11:20, 2:10, 5, 7:50, 10:50
 •Signs (PG-13) 10:40, 12:10, 1:20, 3:20, 4:30, 6:30, 7:30, 9:30, 10:40, 12:20
 •Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams (PG) 11:10, 1:50, 4:40, 7:20, 10:10
 •Stuart Little 2 (PG) 11, 1:10, 3:30, 6
 •XXX (PG-13) 10:30, 11:30, 12:30, 1:40, 2:40, 3:40, 4:50, 5:50, 6:50, 8, 9, 10, 11:10, 12:10

Loews Imax Theatre
 101 Fourth Street, San Francisco 415-369-6200
 •Mysteries of Egypt (Not Rated) 11, 12, 1, 2, 3, 4
 •Signs (PG-13) 5:30, 8:30, 11:30

United Artists Galaxy
 1285 Sutter St., San Francisco 415-474-8700
 •Baran (PG) 11, 2, 7, 9:30
 •Gangster No. 1 (R) 11:15, 1:50, 7:30, 10
 •My Big Fat Greek Wedding (PG) 11:30, 2, 7, 9:45
 •Read My Lips (Not Rated) 11:10, 1:50, 7:30, 10

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 (5) \$45 cash back after rebate
 (6) \$45 cash back after rebate
 (7) \$45 cash back after rebate
 (8

Calendar

Children

Between Youth Orchestra holds a concert of young and brass and woodwinds on Aug. 31 and 40. Tickets on Sept. 4 and 5. Call 510-845-4956 for more information. College Music Room, Fallon College, 2138 Cedar Street, Fallon, NV 89401.

Meetings

The Berkeley Camera Club meets at 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley. Come and share your slides and prints and exchange information with other photographers. There are also monthly field trips. For more information, call Don at 510-525-3565.

Miscellany

The University of California Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley, is open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily except the first Tuesday of each month. Tours will be lead at 5:30 p.m. on Aug. 28 by expert horticulturists. Free with garden admission. For tour information, call 510-643-2755.

Music

Richard Kalman and Con Alma, a vocal jazz sextet, plays at the Baitic, 135 Park Place, Point Richmond 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Aug. 18. This performance features original arrangements of jazz standards. For more information, contact Richard Kalman, at 510-524-6797, rchkalman@aol.com.

Exhibits

By Usinger, an exhibition of photographs, ethnic faces from the world, by Martha Putnam, on display through Aug. 31 in the hall of University of California, Davis.

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tions including the University of Ghana, West Africa; College of Nairobi, East Africa; and Kathmandu, Nepal. For more information, call 510-845-4956

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The Farallon Brass Ensemble performs masterpieces of the brass repertoire at 8 p.m. Aug. 16, in a concert at the Crowden Music Center, 1475 Rose St., Berkeley. The concert highlights the Second Annual Brass Camp presented by the ensemble. Tickets are \$10 gen-

"I know I'm setting myself up for another scathing Bill Mann piece."

— Dan Noyes, KGO anchorman

and obscene e-mail against me, because of my reporting. They both lost their jobs and are facing investigations by the local authorities."

Noyes says "we're the only station in California to get a national Emmy nomination."

Duly noted, Dan, and — brace yourself — congrats. **MEDIA NOTES:** One of the cleverest graphics on local TV lately was on Shaw's old station, KRON. It appeared with a story about L.A. Laker man-mountain Shaquille O'Neal's recent deputation in Long Beach and read "Shaq Can Pack."

Has anyone else tried to listen to "eclectic" CBS/Infinity radio station "The Wave" (93.3 FM)? You've probably seen the heavy TV-ad campaign for it. The best thing about this mediocre, all-things-to-all-people music format is that it replaced country ...

I hear that pioneering tech station CNET (at 910 AM) may be on its last legs. The dotcom-ad bust was bad enough, but now the station has lost its two major affiliates, in Boston and Washington, and its morning-show

biological warfare. Because agents keep getting killed trying to thwart them, Gibbons has decided to borrow from the plots of "The Mod Squad," "La Femme Nikita" and numerous movies throughout the ages and recruit some more expendable types from the ranks of America's Most Wanted.

Dangling the three-strikes law as blackmail, Gibbons strong-arms Xander into helping his country. He's dispatched to Prague, with a fur-lined coat, an alarming lack of instructions and the code name Triple X, inspired by the tattoo on his neck. Infiltrating Yorgi's (Marton Csokas) gang is easy enough; they're all fans of the extreme sport circuit.

There are a fair number of scantily clad women running around "XXX," most of whom do not have lines or even names. Sadly, the only one who does have dialogue and a name, Yorgi's girlfriend Yelena (Italian actress Asia Argento, who looks like a cross between Uma Thurman and Lisa Rinna) is so bad you almost wish she'd just shut up and strip to her undies like the rest of them. When she's not scowling, she's tearing up unconvincingly; her tears never fall from her lower eyelashes.

But Diesel, who was cata-

eral, \$5 students/seniors. For more information, call Executive Director Elisabeth Christensen at 510-559-6910, ext. 104, or visit www.thecrowdenschool.org.

Theater/Dance/Film

Iranian.com will present "Dialogue of Civilizations" at 6 p.m. Aug. 18 at the Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Ave. The event features a documentary titled "Shahrbanoo," the story of an American Melissa Hibbard, who befriends a conservative Iranian woman in one of the poorest neighborhoods of Tehran. For ticket information, call 925-798-1300, or visit www.iranian.com for more information.

The Live Oak Theater, 1301 Live Oak, presents "Death," a comedy by Woody Allen opening Aug. 15 and continuing through Aug. 25. Performances are 8 p.m. Thursday through Sunday; matinees are 2 p.m. Sundays. "Death" concerns a vigilante group in the big city as they try to catch a murderer in their neighborhood. General admission is \$14; students and seniors \$10. For reservations and information, call 510-883-0536.

Berkeley Barnes & Noble, Inc., 2352 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, presents "Pancake Pig Storytimes" at 1 p.m. Saturday. Juice and cookies will be provided. For more information, call 510-644-0861.

"The Destination Telegraph — A Street Fair," takes place from noon to 5 p.m. Aug. 25, on Durant Avenue, between Telegraph and Bowditch. There will be live music, including the Velvet Janes, La Familia and Rhythm Kitchen. Also see street artists and community booths. For more information, call 510-649-9500, or visit www.telegraphberkeley.org.

producer. I still find CNET's young and chatty midday talk host, Desmond Crisis, one of the more listenable people in local radio. So why didn't "Al-ice 97.3" hire him to work its morning gig with Sarah instead of (as the CBS station's bus ads put it) Who?

Pleasant former KGO-TV anchor Richard Brown (they fired the wrong Canadian first) is looking uncharacteristically svelte these days, he reports from Spokane. "My wife and I have become health nuts," he says. "I work out three days a week with a trainer; cardio, etc. I'm actually enjoying it — and I look good, too."

Here's a follow-up to the junk-culture pieces I've done here on kids being fed a steady diet of mass-marketing garbage. My wife was in a Burger King last week to buy fries for our young houseguest. She reports that there were not one, but two TV's going in the fast-food place ...

So fittingly, we close today with comic Steven Pearl's classic throwaway line: "My first job in high school," says Pearl, "was spray-painting the grill marks on the burgers at Burger King."

Questions? Comments? E-mail Bill at Newsman@sonic.net

pulted to fame by last summer's "The Fast and the Furious," has definite appeal. He's got a slow speaking voice, which makes him sound like a bouncer (a job he's held in the past), but that never stopped Stallone or Schwarzenegger. Like them, he's got his impressive physique to fall back on, but he's updated for more modern times by his alluringly ambiguous ethnicity. Audience members can see him however they please — as black, Latino, Italian, what have you.

He also seems to be harboring a nice sense of humor. Would that Wilkes' script gave him better zingers to deliver. When Gibbons stages a stickup in a fake diner to test Xander's abilities under pressure, Xander scoffs at how easy it was to see through. "And no offense, but their performances were terrible," he tells Gibbons. From the way he says it, you expect it's going to be funny. You even start to laugh. And then you realize, hey, that's not particularly funny. What up wit dat?

Mary Pols is the Times movie critic. She can be reached at 925-954-4741 or at mpols@cc-times.com.

Reviews

FROM PAGE C4

festival of cool, from its gadgets to its sun-bleached cinematography. — M. Pols. (PG-13: violence, brief language, some sexuality and drug content.) 2 hours, 25 minutes. A-

"MONSOON WEDDING": An accomplished and entrancing blend of comedy and drama from director Mira Nair ("Mississippi Masala"). Over four days, a flustered Punjabi patriarch prepares for an arranged marriage between his only daughter and an engineer from Houston. Unfortunately the bride is still in love with her married lover, and her spinster cousin is about to drop a bombshell on the family. As thoroughly satisfying, subtle, steamy and balanced between serious and joyous as the best weddings actually are. — M. Pols. (R: language, including some sex-related dialogue.) 1 hour, 54 minutes. A-

"MR. DEEDS": This updated version of the 1936 Frank Capra classic "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town" is shallower than a puddle in Death Valley in the middle of July and in terms of entertainment value, about as useful as an umbrella in said location at said time. As the dopey nice guy Deeds, who teaches big-city Manhattan lessons about small-town values, Adam Sandler is a yawn. The laughs are scant, even from the film's saving grace, John Turturro and Winona Ryder, as Deeds' love interest, is just bad. — M. Pols. (PG-13: language, including sexual references and some nudity.) 1 hour, 31 minutes. D+

"MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING": Tola (Nia Vardalos) is considered a freak of nature in the Chicago Greek community because she's still single at 30. While working at her father's restaurant, she waits on a guy who's so gorgeous, he paralyzes her with awe — then inspires her to undergo a makeover. Ian (John Corbett), a high school teacher, falls for her, too. Her Old-Country parents don't approve of him at first; his WASPY parents treat her like she's from another planet. But because both families want their children to be happy, you know everything will work out in the end. Vardalos and Corbett together are likable enough to make this movie more tolerable than the average romantic comedy. — C. Lemire. (PG: sensuality and language.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. C+

"MY WIFE IS AN ACTRESS": This enjoyable romantic comedy offers a deft picture of the thick line that separates movie glamour from the real world, and the thin line between common sense and paranoia. John (Terence Stamp), an attractive British movie star, is co-starring with Charlotte (Charlotte Gainsbourg) in a romantic drama. Charlotte's husband, Yvan (Yvan Attal, also the film's writer/director), is being nibbled alive by jealousy. Everywhere they go, he's reminded of his wife's desirability. They're constantly beset by autograph hounds. There are certainly parallels to be drawn between "Actress" and Attal's real life. Off-camera, he's actually married to Gainsbourg, and the movie, presumably, must at least partially be a nightmare version of his own experience. — E. Mitchell. (R: sexual situations.) 1 hour, 33 minutes. B+

"NIJINSKY: THE DIARIES OF VASLAV NIJINSKY": Dancer Vaslav Nijinsky's diary was begun in 1919 when he was only 30, just years before he danced for the last time. For the next seven weeks, until he was placed in a mental hospital, he scrawled his memories, opinions, dreams and fears in four notebooks. The selections read by narrator Derek Jacobi (whose voice, unfortunately, is too starchy and mature to convey the physical electricity that Nijinsky's exclamation, hyperbolic prose implies) have been organized into a story that traces the dancer's mental deterioration from a manic state into a pit of uncertainty and despair. In Paul Cox's film we learn of Nijinsky's adoration of his mother, to whom he felt he owed everything. He is harshly critical of his mentor, Serge Diaghilev, with whom he lived as lover for five years until Nijinsky married. — S. Holden. (NR) 1 hour, 35 minutes. B

"NOTORIOUS C.H.O.": Comedian Margaret Cho, the one-woman comic army in the war against puritanical shame about sex, the body and its functions, comes at us with this raunchy and quite funny taping of her popular stage show. The Bay Area favorite has always had a larger purpose in mind than getting laughs — providing audiences with "a way of belonging, of feeling validated." She succeeds so resoundingly because her humor is so liberating and so inclusive. — K. Thomas. (NR: exceedingly blunt language.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. B

"READ MY LIPS": Carla (Emmanuelle Devos) is a lonely, dowdy secretary in a French construction firm, mocked by the men in her office because she wears hearing aids. She hires her ex-con Paul (Vincent Cassel) as a temp and ends up putting his thieving skills to use in order to further her career. In turn, he demands her help with a heist. They hate each other (sort of), but they need each other. As they plot and plan, writer/director Jacques Audiard builds the sexual tension between them to nearly unbearable levels. Devos is brilliant, Cassel oddly appealing, and the plot sucks you in. One of the sexiest and most satisfying movies of the year, and a vivid reminder of the true nature of chemistry between lovers and the rarity with which we see it on the screen. — M. Pols. (NR: includes some violence, sensuality and brief nudity.) 1 hour, 55 minutes. A-

"REIGN OF FIRE": This movie asks us to suspend our disbelief and accept that in the year 2020, the world has been overrun by fire-breathing dragons. Since it's summertime, we were willing to give this patently absurd premise a shot. That is, until we got a gander at the dragons, and Matthew McConaughey riding in with a tank between his legs. Director Rob Bowman's movie is too full of absurd elements, such as McConaughey's performance and a heap of King Arthur references, to take seriously. Unfortunately, it stops just short of being silly enough to have any real fun with. — M. Pols. (PG-13: intense action violence.) 1 hour, 40 minutes. C

"ROAD TO PERDITION": A beautiful movie of near-constant sorrow. Tom Hanks plays Michael Sullivan, a 1930s-era Irish gangster, a man weighed down by his hit man responsibilities but buoyed by his loyalty to the mob boss, John Rooney (Paul Newman), who raised him like a son. Trouble arises when Sullivan's 12-year-old son (Tyler Hoechlin) witnesses a killing and Rooney's already unhinged blood son (Daniel Craig) attempts to silence the boy. Father and son set out on a dangerous road trip, with Jude Law playing a hired killer on their trail. The movie is unrelentingly sad, affecting and exquisitely shot by cinematographer Conrad Hall. Ample proof that director Sam Mendes, whose first effort, "American Beauty," won the Oscar, is no flash in the pan. — M. Pols. (R: violence, language.) 1 hour, 59 minutes. A

"SCOOBY-DOO": Plays like an extended version of the Saturday morning cartoon, true to the original characters, but staying resolutely away from the subtlety generations have attached to it. As rendered by director Raja Gosnell ("Never Been Kissed"), Valma is straight, Shaggy isn't stoned and Daphne and Fred are not doing anything untoward. Probably won't rot your kid's minds any more than most kiddie fare, but there are lots of taut thighs and sexual innuendoes that might make some parents nervous. And as for older fans, don't expect much out of this: It's loud, silly and dependent on flatulence for humor. — M. Pols. (PG: some rude humor, language and some scary action.) 1 hour, 27 minutes. C

"SEX AND LUCIA": "Sex and Lucia" is complex, often confusing fusion of reality and fantasy begins with Lucia (Paz Vega), a Madrid waitress involved in a tempestuous relationship with a novelist named Lorenzo (Tristan Ulloa). Returning to their apartment, Lucia finds Lorenzo gone. She flees to a Mediterranean island that had been one of Lorenzo's favorite places, but to which he'd refused to take her. Next we flash back six years, before Lorenzo knew Lucia, to a sexual adventure he had with a woman whose name he doesn't know. "Sex and Lucia" alternates between two different plot strands: what happens to Lucia on the island, and a flashback to how Lucia and Lorenzo met and how their relationship developed. In Spanish with English subtitles. — K. Turan. (NR: contains explicit sex scene.) 2 hours, 8 minutes. C+

"STUART LITTLE 2": The gang returns for another reasonably fun effort. The animals, from Snowbell the cat to Stuart himself — a dead ringer for Michael J. Fox, who voices the character — are cute, but the choice of Melanie Griffith to voice Margalo, the bird Stuart develops a crush on, borders on the creepy. Innovative in a visual sense, but painfully outdated from a mother's perspective: Geena Davis fits every stereotype of a pesky, annoying 1950s mom. Moreover, this movie is so short, it will only distract your kids for a little over an hour. Surely today's working parents deserve more for the dollar. — M. Pols. (PG: brief mild language.) 1 hour, 12 minutes. C+

"THE SUM OF ALL FEARS": Jack Ryan must have been exploring anti-aging creams since "Clear and Present Danger," because the Tom Clancy hero formerly played by Harrison Ford is portrayed by twentysomething Ben Affleck in this latest adaptation of one of Clancy's popular spy novels. It's the usual terrorist muck,

with a misplaced nuclear warhead on the loose, the world's future in jeopardy and Jack rushing to save us all. There's a difference this time, though, in terms of disaster narrowly averted — and it may be very hard for some folks, those still caught up in the Sept. 11 mind-set, to sit back and enjoy this harrowing ride. Look for Morgan Freeman as the smooth-as-silk CIA director. — M. Pols. (PG-13: violence, disaster images and brief strong language.) 2 hours, 4 minutes. C+

"SUNSHINE STATE": The most thoughtful and rewarding movie of the summer. John Sayles takes on the unlikely topic of development in coastal Florida and somehow makes it interesting. He's woven together, as usual, a number of stories about vaguely connected characters, in particular two women acted with great zest by Edie Falco and Angela Bassett. The latter plays a woman who escaped her hometown and has returned, reluctantly, for a visit, while the former is just coming to grips with her own need to move on. What is particularly pleasing about this film is its steady sense of humor and optimism. As much as things may be changing on Plantation Island, humanity continues to thrive. — M. Pols. (PG-13: sexuality and language.) 2 hours, 21 minutes. A-

"TADPOLE": A slight and sprightly new fable about a pompous, Voltaire-obsessed 15-year-old prep school student (Aaron Stanford) who believes himself to be in love with his stepmother Eve (Sigourney Weaver). During the weekend in which he plans to steal her away from his father (a very funny John Ritter), he accidentally falls into bed with her best friend (Bebe Neuwirth). The movie, shot on digital video, looks like your Uncle Bob made it, but it's got some delightful comic moments and Stanford is a real find. — M. Pols. (PG-13: sexual content, mature thematic elements and language.) 1 hour, 17 minutes. B

"THIRTEEN CONVERSATIONS ABOUT ONE THING": More accurately, 13 tedious conversations about nothing. One of those movies, like "Magnolia," that interweaves stories about characters we know will ultimately be connected. When they work, we leave with a sense of something bigger, but this indie film from writer/director J.J. Spector only adds up to a muted, fractured, pretentious bore. With Matthew McConaughey, John Turturro, Clea DuVall and Alan Arkin as some of the various characters enduring story lines that are meant to teach them about life. Only Arkin shines. — M. Pols. (R: language and brief drug use.) 1 hour, 43 minutes. C-

"ULTIMATE X": This 43-minute film skillfully unites the IMAX cameras with such visual spectacles as skateboarding, BMX biking, Moto-X and street luge competitions. A behind-the-scenes look at the 2001 X Games in Philadelphia that's both fun and exciting. — P. Wuntch. (PG: intense sports action, mild language.) 43 minutes. B+

"WHO IS CLETIS TOUTT?": In this crime caper, Christian Slater tries his best to infuse the hero with rascally charm, and he and Portia de Rossi muster some sparks in the movie's romantic subplot. He plays forger Trevor Finch, who's doing time with Michigan Micah (Richard Dreyfuss). Trevor and Micah escape, planning to recover the diamonds Micah stashed away 20 years earlier. With help from Trevor's old pal at the coroner's office (Billy Connolly), the escaped cons take on the identities of two dead men at the morgue, with Trevor adopting the identity of a sleaze named Cletis Toutt, a video blackmailer killed by the mob for taping the murder of a prostitute by a crime lord's son. But when Trevor, as Cletis, starts popping up around town, mob leaders think they've killed the wrong man and call in ace hit man Critical Jim (Tim Allen) to finish the job. — D. Germain. (R: language, some violence, sex.) 1 hour, 33 minutes. C-



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CROSSES CROSSED By ROBERT MALINOW/EDITED BY WALL SHORTZ

ACROSS

1 "Comin' the Rye"
5 Inscrutable stone, maybe
9 "Master"
14 Person with answers
19 Tough
20 Brief denial
21 Carlo Levi's novel town
22 Ireland's De Valera
23 Musical comedy of 1947
25 Part of a jet
27 It's received at a warehouse
28 Italian suffix
30 Breaks up hurriedly
31 Rodeo sight
33 Film director Hal
37 "Battle Cry" novelist
38 Moo... pork
39 Geometric sets
42 Tinger...
44 Publishers' bureau, for short
47 Trafalgar Square honoree
49 Lead-in to "Five Dollars" and "Sixpence" in song titles
50 Author Marj

DOWN

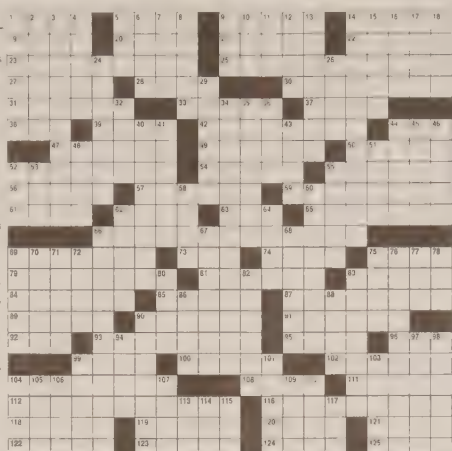
32 Conscious
34 Myth, for one
35 Country whose official language is Dzongkha
36 Not testotater
37 Nags
39 Talsky heroine
41 Yielded
42 Cousin of "Hasta luego"
43 Antipoverty agency
45 Classic bank giveaway
46 "Goodbye" and "amen," usually
49 Isaac Asimov, notably
53 Word before and after "over"
54 Dissem
55 Relatives of calzones: Abbr.
56 Overmode
57 "Ad Astra per..."
58 Sad sounds
59 Cab Calloway catchphrase
60 Washington or Phoenix
61 Desk item
62 Like a couch potato
63 Year (for)
64 Quickly
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96 Did not stir
99 William Cowper composition
100 Bout of indulgence
102 Tea brand since 1892
104 Archaeologist's prize
106 1/2 fluid oz.
111 Part of a spur
112 Stravinsky ballet
116 Go proceer
118 Race of Norse gods
119 Unbuilt
120 By that reasoning
121 Author Wiesel
122 Cup of café
123 Build
124 Believe
125 TV exec's work

DOWN

11 polio
12 Misfortunes
13 Ritz, e.g., to Brits
14 Middle management title
15 Number of bulbs
16 French pal
17 Poor drainage area
18 Days... (business chain)
24 Morning glory ad
26 Pull down
29 Long for, with "to"
32 Alternative to draw
34 Argue
35 Lucky, so to speak
36 Oft-quoted athlete
40 Has the ingredients with "oil"
41 Because
43 Brother
44 Ignominiously, in slang
45 "Cheers" regular
46 52-Dowd gear
48 Word repeated in a French Hamlet's soliloquy
51 Magazine contents
52 K-19, for one
53 That, to an ombre
55 Not be just warm
58 English poet who wrote "Lady Jane Grey"



ACROSS

60 Woman in Ovid's "Metamorphoses"
62 Big name in watches
64 Bure Prefix
66 1967 hit that begins "You know that it would be untrue"
67 Vacationing
68 "Soap," for one
69 Sap sucker
70 Singer Lopez

DOWN

71 Pells
72 River to the Elbe
75 Pear type
76 Perambulates
77 French article
78 Fast one, for short
80 Kind of mail
82 Like default figures
83 Roof style
84 "Cool" ones
88 Cool, once

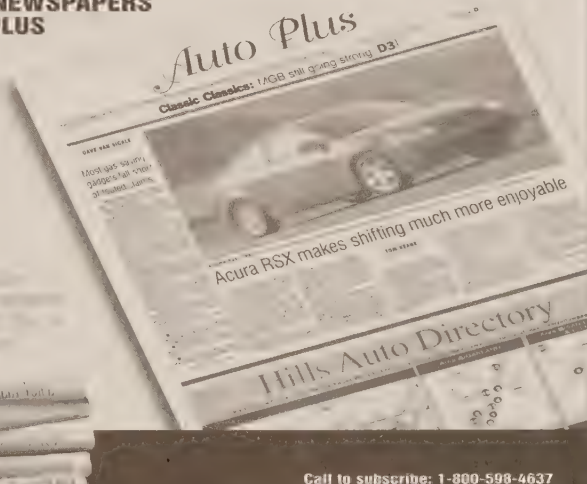
ACROSS

90 Open
94 Taliban leader
97 Antarctic penguin
98 Turned state's evidence
99 They played Rocky Nelson and Bobby Darin
101 Went out
103 Home Depot rival
104 Rab...

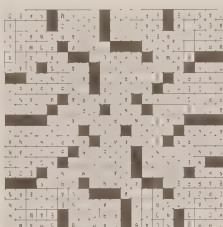
DOWN

105 Three-toed bird
106 Harper of "Tender Mercies"
107 Structural piece
109 Ticked off
110 Bep
112 Suffix with magnet
114 Kind of ball
115 Old agricultural letters
117 CD finale?

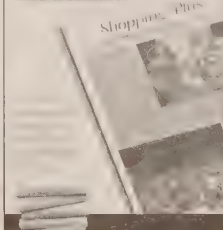
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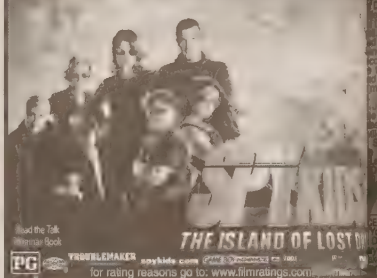
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Auto Plus

Supplement to The Montclairer, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, August 9, 2002

Section D

Classic Classics: Original owner keeps 1967 Pontiac GTO [D4]

MARY JACKSON
Women Auto Know

vel tips for of-summer ursions

MOTOR MATTERS
A couple of summer weeks before Labor Day coming up, you're planning a vacation preparation largely up to you — and making sure the kids have their favorite snacks — don't forget to prepare your car, too. Although cars and trucks are more reliable than ever before, though, travelers experience road emergencies every summer. They're emergencies that have been avoided. American Automobile Association did a study a few years ago finding more than 4,000 vehicles found that a large percentage weren't in proper shape. The problems: 46 percent of the vehicles needed tire repairs, 33 percent had defective belts or hoses, 32 percent had brake systems that were malfunctioning, and 18 percent had oil that needed to be serviced. The results of such neglect could be tragic.

When you demand your car to push punishing miles of hills, steep traffic, construction delays, high temperatures, have a mechanic complete the following maintenance list: Check out filters, belts, and change the oil (if it's time to expect the cooling system fluids (transmission, steering).

WOMEN, Page D4



MOTOR MATTERS

VOLVO V70 XC is an upscale vehicle that is loaded with safety equipment and luxurious treatments, with a turbocharged engine under the hood.

Volvo V70 XC can be tailor-made to owner's needs

MOTOR MATTERS

Whether your destination is across the country or simply across town, Volvo has an ideal means for transporting you and your family. It's the V70 XC Wagon.

At a time when the popularity of sport utility vehicles is seen everywhere, Volvo offers a station wagon that can do just about everything a SUV can do.

With all-wheel drive, it can take on off-road hills without having to shift into four-wheel drive. The best part about AWD is that it is always engaged and available — in case

the road becomes unexpectedly slippery.

Volvos are built in a Scandinavian country where snow-covered roads are a way of life, thus AWD is a must-have feature. When the V70 XC senses that the front-drive wheels have lost traction, it immediately delivers power to all four wheels, enabling the vehicle to remain on course.

In addition, this model also offers as standard equipment Stability Traction Control — avoiding loss of control if the AWD can't handle a quick zigzag situation.

TOM KEANE
Keane on Wheels

What I liked most about the V70 XC is its car-like comfort. Although some SUVs offer a luxurious ride, there is nothing better than sitting in a vehicle with a lower center of gravity.

From the driver seat forward, the comparison to a luxury sedan is apt. Even getting in and out of the V70 XC is the same as entering and exiting a car.

Nevertheless, the V70 XC offers the convenience of storage in the rear similar to that available in most SUVs.

Another enjoyable feature is the V70 XC's acceleration. Under the hood is a 2.4-liter, five-cylinder that produces a modest 197 horsepower.

But touch the accelerator and this car takes off — due to the turbocharged engine that produces 210 pound-feet of torque in an instant.

Better yet, peak horsepower

ranges anywhere from 1,800 to 5,000 rpm.

For even better performance, the five-speed automatic transmission switches to a manual Geartronic mode, allowing the driver to determine when to shift up or down.

In the automatic mode, the transmission is exceptionally quiet and smooth.

This is an upscale vehicle that is loaded with safety equipment and luxurious treatments. It has an upscale price tag, too.

See KEANE, Page D2

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Zooming along in M3 on road to Lake Tahoe

BY DIANNE GLEI
AUTO EDITOR

CAR TALK

Our friend Nick finally has his brand new BMW M3 after waiting two years. And, within the first week, the car was rear-ended on Ygnacio Valley Road.

He restrained himself from pummeling the woman who hit him. She suggested that the damage was minor. True, you could barely see the dent, but the estimate for repair is \$700.

That's why he's very careful where he parks the car and avoids driving behind trucks and SUVs that can throw rocks on the freeway.

We got our road trip in the M3 recently on a weekend visit to Lake Tahoe. It's a sports car that actually seats four people and has a trunk big enough to hold luggage for a weekend stay.

The radar detector was going all the time we were on the road because it's so easy to be going 80 or 90 mph without realizing it. Actually, he says he's more likely to go too far over the speed limit on city streets.

The car takes curves faster than the posted limit with no sway and has a sports mode that lets you move like a rocket.

Having ridden in a sports car that moves, I found myself on a recent morning drive to work behind a shiny new Porsche Carrera. The driver was talking on the phone and driving like "a little old lady from Pasadena."

I almost rear-ended him in my Prius because he didn't move fast enough. It must have been a very important phone call.

One of the nice things about the M3 is you push the accelerator and you can get out of the way of wayward, crazy or too-slow drivers. When we got home my husband tried that in his RAV4 and it just didn't react the same!

The M3 technology tells you what your average gas mileage is for the trip and what your average speed was. It does require premium gasoline, of course.

Most drivers got out of the way when they saw the M3 behind them, but some were oblivious to the rule, "slower traffic to the right, passing on the left."

Last of a luxury line

Rolls-Royce and Bentley have been intertwined for many years, beginning as independent car makers, then merging when Bentley fell on financial hard times and Rolls-Royce bought it. Now, they are about to change again.

Rolls-Royce will offer 75 of its final cars manufactured at the Crewe, England, factory for sale

in the United States. The last Silver Seraph, Park Ward or Corniche models will be available at authorized North American dealers through the end of 2002.

These historic cars will be high on collectors' lists, according to David Gooding of RM Auctions in Beverly Hills, home to many R-Rs and Bentleys.

The last Rolls-Royces are scheduled to come off the Crewe production line this month. On Dec. 31, more than 2,000 workers in the Pyms Lane factory at Crewe will say goodbye to Rolls-Royce, as one of the world's preeminent luxury brand passes to new ownership. Rolls-Royces have been produced there since the end of World War II.

The new ownership is moving production to Goodwood in Surrey, England, and will introduce a new Rolls-Royce model in 2003.

Also on Jan. 1, 2003, Rolls-Royce Motors Cars, Inc. will change its name to Bentley Motors, Inc.

Rolls-Royce and Bentley had shared the Crewe production line for 55 years. Bentley vehicle production will continue at the Crewe factory and the first new breed of Bentleys—a GT coupe—will be introduced next year. A preview will be given special guests during the annual Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance the weekend of Aug. 17 and 18.

24-hour roadside assistance

Owners with collector cars now have roadside assistance thanks to Hagerty Insurance, which provides policies to protect classic and vintage cars—at a premium price, but considering the investment in such cars, it's money well spent.

Hagerty's Roadside Assistance program is the first of its kind and operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week anywhere in the United States and Canada.

What it provides is flatbed towing exclusively for collector cars. This is the most secure and safest towing method for transporting classic and vintage cars, affording maximum protection for undercarriages, body work and finishes, according to Hagerty.

The service includes towing for mechanical breakdown. Further information is available by calling 800-922-4050 or by visiting the Web site, www.hagerty.com.

Left foot takes a holiday in BMW's M3 SMG

BY JAMES G. COBB
NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

"Hope you're not taking a car with a stick shift on vacation," my traveling companion warned in what I could only interpret as a critique of my left foot, or at least the way it behaves on winding roads with a clutch at its disposal.

"No," I replied with an almost-straight face. "It's a new M3 convertible, and there's no clutch. You can just put in 'automatic' and go."

Technically, I was lying. The M3 SMG has a manual transmission and a clutch, although there is no clutch pedal.

You can run up and down the six forward gears simply by nudging the shift lever or by tapping paddles mounted, in the style of a Formula One racecar, behind the rim of the steering wheel.

Or, if you have a queasy passenger or are creeping along the Cross Bronx, you can select automatic mode and let the car's computer do the shifting.

This highly sophisticated gearbox should not be confused with the many variations on the Tiptronic theme (TouchShift, AutoStick, Steptronic, etc.), which are automatic transmissions that let the driver hold a gear, within certain limits.

Virtually any automatic robot power, which is why cars usually record faster test times, and higher mileage, with stick shifts.

Enthusiasts prefer manual gearboxes because they give the driver a greater measure of control.

No, BMW's SMG (for sequential manual gearbox) is similar to the Magneti Marelli system used in Ferraris, Maseratis and the new Aston Martin Vanquish.

But BMW's version has a

twist: a "Drivologic" button below the shifter lets you select how quick you want the shifts to be, from leisurely to rocket racer (as fast as eight one-hundredths of a second).

Your selections apply in either automatic or manual mode.

Clutchless manuals are still exotic, appealing mainly to hardcore enthusiasts, but they are trickling down to less expensive cars. Toyota is offering a simpler version, without an automatic mode, as a \$780 option on its \$25,000 MR2 Spyder.

Is SMG worth \$2,400 more than the M3's standard six-speed gearbox, which is itself the very model of a modern stick shift?

Possibly. At first I found myself missing the clutch pedal, but after rolling up some miles and experimenting with the shift programs I became a convert.

In any case, SMG promises harmony in mixed marriages—those mismatched relationships in which one partner loves to shift but the other thinks a clutch is a small purse.

Beyond the transmission, the '02 M3 is everything a BMW convertible ought to be, and then some. Fast, stylish, comfortable, with perfect steering and an exhaust rumble so addictive that it may affect the way you drive.

Your accelerator foot plays the engine like a 155 mph pipe organ. Car and Driver magazine tested it at zero to 60 mph in 4.8 seconds.

All this comes at a cost. My test car came in at \$60,220, for what is, essentially, a very nice, very fast 3 Series.

You can get a perfectly enjoyable 325i soft-top for \$37,000 and up, but the difference counts among those in the know.



Pebble Beach readies 52nd annual Concours d'Elegance

PEBBLE BEACH CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE

PEBBLE BEACH — Maybach and Cadillac have been announced as the honored marques for the 52nd annual Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance on Aug. 18.

This premier automotive event for classic cars showcases some of the finest and most unique collector cars from around the world.

The cars of Wilhelm Maybach, a contemporary of Gottlieb Daimler, and considered one of the most talented of the early automotive designers will be honored at the event at the Pebble Beach Lodge.

Maybach had great influence on the early development of the motorcar, and produced a series of luxury motorcars unmatched for power, innovation and design.

Cadillac, celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2002, will present a dynamic retrospective of its renowned and revolutionary vehicles. Founded by wealthy lumber merchant William H. Murphy, he named his fledgling auto company after the founder of the city of Detroit — Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac.

The marque lead the way in engineering and manufacturing innovation, even in its earliest days, winning two DeWard Trophies (in 1908 and 1912) for the greatest technical advancements. It eventually became the leading component of William Durant's General Motors Company.

Additional display classes in 2002 will feature:

- Custom-bodied Fiat 8Vs or Otto Vu, including Zagatos, Ghia-designed models
- A Chassis Class featuring a wide range of pre-war chassis, showcasing some

of the best examples of this genre, which reflect "the true heart of the car."

■ The 80th anniversary of the Sir William Lyons' Jaguar marque.

In addition, the Federation Internationale Vehicules Anciens will present its fourth annual FIVA Trophy to the owner of the Best Preserved (unrestored) car in the show. Last year, the award went to a 70-year-old 1931 Duesenberg.

Fiat 8V display

The 50th anniversary of one of the 1950s most avant garde gran turismo autos, the Fiat 8V, will be celebrated at the Concours, with the largest gathering to-date of the sleek two-seaters. Only 114 of these were produced between 1952 and 1954.

Originally conceived for racing, the early 8V is the first Fiat to use an independent suspension layout on all four wheels with double wishbone, coil springs and telescoping dampers.

The 1952 version is powered by a 70-degree, 2-liter, 105-horsepower V8 engine with a four-speed transmission. It is capable of a top speed of 110 miles per hour.

Chassis class

The Chassis Class at this year's Concours is a first and spotlights a selection of exquisite auto chassis shown with no car body attached.

"By exhibiting cars in a 'bare bones' format, people will be able to appreciate the intricacies, technology and design of these extraordinary classic vehicles," says Glenn Mounser, co-chairman of the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance.

Approximately 15 chassis are expected

in the inaugural exhibit, including such well-known classics as Rolls-Royce and Duesenberg.

Tour of Monterey Peninsula

The Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance also will feature its Tour of the Monterey Peninsula, which opens the weekend festivities on Thursday.

The fifth annual tour is open only to cars participating in Sunday's Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance and is just under 50 miles in length, winding through Pebble Beach, Pacific Grove, Monterey, Carmel and Carmel Valley.

Tickets, available only in advance, for the weekend event are \$100, with children younger than 12 admitted free. Each ticket includes a program, parking and a shuttle ride to the show field. To order, call the ticket line at 877-693-0009.

Proceeds benefit area charities

Blackhawk Museum hosts annual free open house

BLACKHAWK MUSEUM

DANVILLE — The 14th annual post-Pebble Beach Open House at Blackhawk Museum is scheduled Aug. 19 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the museum, 3700 Blackhawk Circle Drive, Danville.

The museum welcomes visitors from the 52nd annual Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance to tour the collection of classic and historic cars and Smithsonian-affiliated exhibits. There will be live music, snacks and beverages, free parking and free admission.

Among exhibits are seven cars show-

ing 30 years of Jacques Saoutchik's creative car bodies: "Ness-Stalgia," a display of 20 custom-built motorcycles by Bay Area designer Arlen Ness, and "FastForward II," 1.5 scale clay concept models from the Transportation Design Department at Academy of Art College, San Francisco.

Information: www.blackhawkmuseum.org

Keane

FROM PAGE D1

My tester cost \$40,750; that figure includes about \$4,000 in options.

Some of the comfort and convenience features include an eight-way power driver's seat with three-position memory, along with a tilt and telescopic steering wheel.

Anyone can find an ideal driving position in this vehicle.

The V70 XC also has dual electronic climate controls, power glass sunroof, heated outside mirrors and a remote dust and pollen filter.

It even has grab handles for the front-seat passenger, plus something unusual: a storage pouch at the base of the seat cushion of the front seats.

The storage is easy to access using a keyless remote to open the two-way rear window and tailgate. The tailgate, however, has a drawback; it requires lifting packages up and over the open tailgate.

As for safety features, Volvo is noted for making safe vehicles and the V70 XC is no exception.

It includes dual-stage side and front airbags, side impact protection, plus five padded head restraints.

My tester had, as options, leather seats and a terrific sound system with a CD player. It also had wood trim that gave the interior an elegant appearance.

Those using the V70 XC for cross-country driving would enjoy an optional navigation system that automatically recalculates the route if they got lost.

In fact, there are so many options, you could almost have your own custom-made V70 XC.

VOLVO V70 XC

Vehicle Type	Five-passenger, four-door, AWD station wagon
Suggested Retail	\$36,500
Price as Tested	\$40,750
Engine Type	DOHC 2.4-liter, five-cylinder turbo w/variable valve timing
Horsepower	197 at 6,000 rpm
Torque	210 at 1,800-5,000 rpm (pound-feet)
Transmission	Five-speed Geartronic automatic
Wheelbase	108 inches
Turning Circle	(curb-to-curb) 39 feet
Curb Weight	3,646 pounds
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10 ways to check for which system problem plagues '93 Isuzu Trooper

own a 1993 Isuzu Trooper with the 3.2-liter DOHC engine?

owned the car since it was new, it has been very well-maintained. The current mileage is a bit over 100,000.

BRAD BERGHOLDT
Auto QnA

to be less if the car comes to rest headed uphill.

These sudden stoppages can occur daily, or several days may pass without a problem.

Suspecting fuel contamination, I've taken the car to my mechanic, but he was unable to replicate the problem. I've had him replace the fuel filter with no improvement.

He reports that the onboard

computer displays no malfunction codes, the carburetor is clean and properly adjusted, and the old fuel filter was not clogged.

I've treated the fuel with an additive and run several tanks through the car since the problem first occurred, but it persists. Can you suggest a next step?

R.E. Shrigley, Olympia, Wash.

A Your symptoms and intuition suggest a fuel-system problem but, based on your tech's findings, I'm not so sure.

Start by purchasing a can of aerosol carburetor cleaner (B-12 or

similar) and a spark tester (a \$10 tool).

Next time the Trooper quits, trot around front, tip up the air cleaner lid and spray the volatile cleaner for five seconds into the top of the carburetor. If the Trooper restarts (for a few seconds at least), you've confirmed a fuel-system problem.

If it still fails to start, install the spark tester to the end of one of the spark plug wires. If the tester fails to spark as the engine is cranked, there's an ignition system problem.

Once you've narrowed the fault to a system, diagnosis will become

easier.

The fuel system might contain water, the fuel pump is erratic, or there's a fault occurring at the tank pickup screen or suction hose. A fuel sample (a quart at least, taken prior to the filter) should yield some information, as well as fuel pump pressure, volume and vacuum tests.

The ignition system will require detailed testing at the time of a failure.

Q How often should you replace your air filter? The auto parts flier I receive says once per year. This seems too soon.

Adolfo R., Salinas, Calif.

A Just about every carmaker calls for air-filter replacement at 30,000 miles or 24 to 30 months. If the vehicle is driven in dusty conditions, cut this in half. If you can see light through the filter (held up to the sun or bright light) it should be OK for additional service.

Resist the temptation to clean a filter with compressed air or by banging it on the ground. If it's that dirty, replace it.

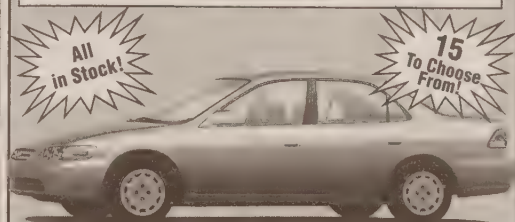
Brad Bergholdt teaches automotive technology at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif.

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Custom 1967 Pontiac GTO still has one true owner

MOTOR MATTERS

Youthful Paul Maxwell once thought a 1963 Chevrolet Impala was the ultimate. The young man bought one, and to his dismay, discovered that it was not the car of his dreams.

A few years later, Pontiac's GTO caught Maxwell's attention and by 1967 he was almost ready to take the plunge. What pushed him over the edge was a visit to a Pontiac dealership.

A test-drive in a demonstrator GTO convinced him of the need — no, the necessity — of ordering a GTO built to his specifications.

Besides the 400-cubic-inch, 335-horsepower V8 engine that came as standard equipment with the GTO, Maxwell ordered: a four-speed transmission, AM/FM radio, rally gauge cluster, faux wood trim console, Sat-T-Track, deluxe wheel discs and Quick Ratio steering.

The benevolent Pontiac dealer did not charge for the 7.75x14-inch wide track white sidewall Tiger Paw tires.

Pontiac placed a base price of \$3,165 on each of the 9,517 GTO convertibles produced in 1967. With all the optional extras Maxwell ordered, the price soared; however, he was able to negotiate the price back down to \$3,361.36. He convinced himself the underdash wires seemed to be good alternatives to air conditioning.

Even with his down payment and his 1963 Chevrolet Impala trade-in, Maxwell needed a \$400 loan from his mother to claim his regimental red GTO convertible when it arrived.

"The salesman said it would take three or four weeks before the car would arrive," Maxwell says. So, he and his fiancée drove by the dealership to see what they could

VERN PARKER
Classic Classics

see. They spotted his car behind the chain link fence on a Sunday afternoon, June 17, 1967.

"It was in there," Maxwell recalls, "looking back at me." After taking delivery on June 21, he promptly picked up the woman he would marry eight months later.

After getting her approval, he left to put some miles on his new red convertible. It wasn't until years later that he learned of the observation of his future father-in-law: "He doesn't look like a man planning to get married."

Bright red Pontiac GTO convertibles can leave that impression. Notwithstanding, the young couple wed in February 1968 and drove the GTO (on a comfortable 115-inch wheelbase) to a Florida honeymoon.

The four-speed manual floor shifter worked flawlessly. Maxwell never pushed the engine close to the 5,000 rpm red line on the 8,000 rpm tachometer.

The only flaw in the otherwise protected Pontiac's history occurred when another motorist struck the car. "It was minor," Maxwell says, "but the left front fender was replaced."

In April, 1971, when Maxwell's job took him to San Francisco, he made the cross-country trip in his GTO. Before his wife was able to join him, he was transferred back east.

Once again, his Pontiac was up to the task. Even on those long-distance runs and after 118,000 miles, Maxwell says, "It hasn't been over 100 mph, yet."

By the mid-1970s, the family had three

cars and the decision was made to sell the GTO. After an ad was placed, interested buyers began calling.

That was when Maxwell told his wife he just could not go through with the sale.

There has been no mention since then of selling the 3,515-pound GTO. About the time the well-worn car was 30 years old, Maxwell decided his Pontiac was due for — and deserved — a restoration.

Almost all parts of the suspension and drive train passed muster, with the powerful engine only requiring a "refreshing." During the restoration, which began in August 2000, Maxwell had a factory-authentic power steering unit installed to replace the original Quick Ratio steering.

By the end of 2001 Maxwell had his Pontiac back looking like new, even down to the black dual pinstripes, painted — not decals. "It's sweet!" he exclaimed when he saw his car.

When he first ordered the GTO, Maxwell had wanted either the Rally I or the Rally II wheels. Economics dictated that he get neither. All he could afford at the time were the full wheel covers.

During restoration he selected American Racing GTO wheels to make up for his oversight 35 years ago. On the wheels are B.F. Goodrich white letter Radial T/A tires.

From the stacked headlights to the eight slotted taillights Maxwell's GTO now sparkles. The well-cared-for black interior is original with the exception of the carpeting.

The black convertible top with the plastic rear window is the third one on the car. Since the restoration was completed, Maxwell says, "My car hasn't been washed, only dusted."



ORIGINAL owner of this 1967 Pontiac GTO convertible continues to drive the car. He finally got the rally racing wheels he wanted following restoration in 2001. Everything on the inside is original except for the carpeting. He's replaced the convertible top three times.

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FROM PAGE D1

- make sure the battery and brakes are in good shape
- replace windshield wipers (if they need to be replaced)
- get tires to their proper inflation level and check tread.

It's best to do all this at least a few days before you leave on your trip in case the mechanic finds any problems that need to be fixed.

You'll be a smarter and safer traveler if you equip your car with some key items, including maps, an emergency car care kit (you can buy these at most major stores; the kits include things like jumper cables), a small tool kit, duct tape (for loose wires and leaking hoses), a flashlight with new batteries, and a first aid kit.

Make sure you're ready to change a tire, if you get a flat; that means your spare is ready to use and the jack and lug wrench are in the car.

To let other drivers know that you need help, carry either a red flag or a sunshade that reverses to "Need help. Call police."

Also, put an extra key underneath the car. (Locksmith shops sell those small metal boxes with magnets on them; you put an extra key in the box and affix it to a hidden place under your vehicle.)

When you finally hit the road for your end-of-summer adventure, watch for signs your car is overheating. If the temperature gauge starts to rise, or you see the engine temperature light go on, there are several things you can do.

First turn off the air conditioning. Then turn the car's heater and blower to its highest setting. This will pull

some of the heat away from the engine and into the passenger compartment.

Of course now you will overheat, but remember, dry-cleaning your blouse is cheaper than rebuilding your engine. If all else fails and your car continues to overheat, stop driving immediately.

Overheating can seriously damage an engine.

On your road trip, don't just pay attention to your car. Be sure to pay attention to yourself.

To avoid the very serious problem of fatigue (or "highway hypnosis"), stop or change drivers every hundred miles or every hour. At the very least, pay attention to when you're getting tired and don't fall into the deadly trap of "Oh-we'll-just-go-a-little-further."

Finally, here's a Web site that can help you avoid road construction as you head off to visit Mickey Mouse or

the beach or Grandma. Avoiding the stop-and-go traffic of road construction can help keep your car from overheating.

The Federal Highway Administration's site (www.fhwa.dot.gov/trafficinfo) offers national traffic and road closure information through dozens of links.

The links take you to state and national Web sites that are construction-related and weather/road conditions-related. They also have a wealth of traffic information.

Not only will checking the FHWA site before you go help your car, it'll help reduce the time you spend driving. You'll get to spend more time with Mickey and less time bargaining with your kids to keep peace in the back seat.

Mary Jackson is the author of "Car Smarts," a layperson's guide to cars (Avalon Travel Publications, 1999). Visit

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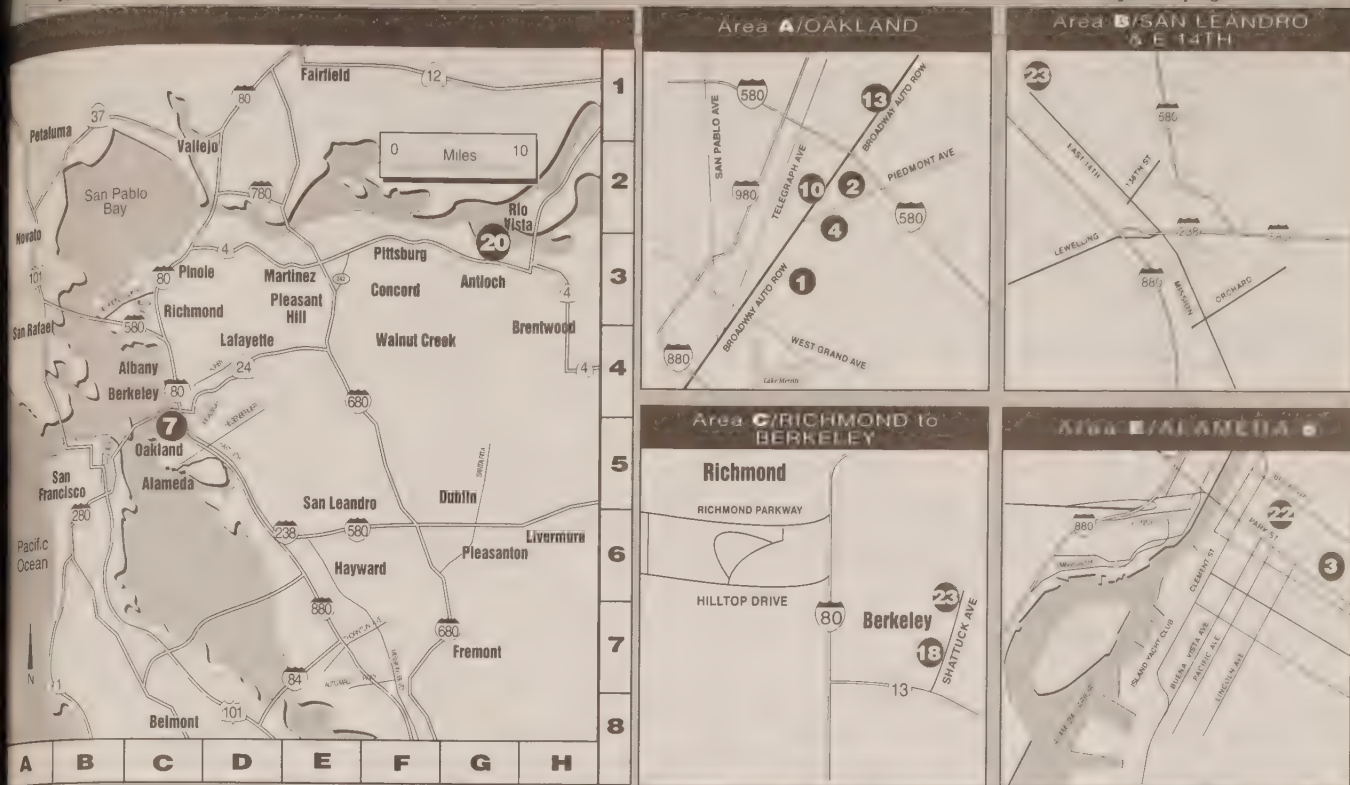
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Offering decor, collectibles, rugs, furn, household items books, kid & baby gear</p> <p>Block Sale Saturday 10am-3pm 3600 Victor Ave. Skis, clothes, furniture books, toys, school gear & much more</p> <p>ESTATE SALE Fri, Sat Sun 9am-3pm Victorian bdrm, china, cab, furn, china, silver, Orientalia, collectibles, books, records, jewelry, house- hold items, outdoor & restorers equipment, vintage dks windows, sinks, tools, etc. All goes to charity 2814 SYLWORTH RD. (Hwy 13 at Jackson Miller exit)</p> <p>ESTATE SALE 4319 Montgomery St. 60 years of accumulation 1930's bdrm & dining set china, glassware, furniture prints & more Saturday (8/10) 10-4 p.m. Sunday (8/11) 12-4 p.m.</p> <p>GROWING UP SALE 8733 EVERGREEN AVE (Off Skyline parallel Shep- herd Dr. Cross at Artken) SATURDAY 8:10-8:20 Toys, furn, cookbooks, etc</p> <p>HUGE SALE 4508 Montgomery St. Sat & Sun 8:10-11:30-2 Everything will go Furn, VCR, KIL items clothing, lin shoes, boots & jackets, bedding, Afro- centric Art, phones, etc supplies, books & more Good Prices, Good Quality</p>	<p>MOVING SALE 3934 Greenwood Ave (Green View off Park Blvd) Too good to miss. Moving east. Great Stuff Cheap! Sat/Sun 8:10-11, 9-3</p> <p>MOVING SALE Sat 8:10 Sun 8:11, 8-2pm Misc. books & vintage but- tlers, TV, org. art & more! 466 41st St. (N. Telegraph)</p> <p>MOVING SALE: 74 Sheri- dan Rd Sat 8:10, 9-1pm Broom & ivy rm. furn, pic- tures, Lawnmower, hedge- trimmer, lawns & misc</p> <p>MULTI-FAMILY SALE Sat 8:10, 9-2pm. Glen Eaton at Piedmont Ave Something for Everyone No Early Birds</p> <p>MULTI-FAMILY SALE Sat/Sun Aug 10-11, 9-12 2115 Magellan Dr Computers, electronics TVs, stereo, furniture, etc</p> <p>SAT 8:10, 9-4pm Antiques, art, old hand bags, books, fabrics (Irish Twigs) Kids Yard Toys</p> <p>Primo Stuff Priced To Go Sat 8:10, 9-3, 4420 Evans Ave. Chest bed, Lladro, 50's dolls, desktop clock, books, fabrics (Irish Twigs) Kids Yard Toys</p> <p>ROCKWELL Multi-Family Garage Sale Sat 8:10, 9-4 (5555) Ocean View Dr Brown College & McMan Furniture, household, etc</p> <p>6TH ANNUAL BLOCK- WIDE YARD SALE! Over 150 households offer- ing wonderful assortment of household, furn, computer goods, lots of infant & kid items. Great Quilt, Low Priced 400 Block 62nd St bwn. Canning & Colby, 4 blks. S. of Alcatraz, N. Oak- land Sat 8:10, 9AM-2PM</p> <p>Oakley</p> <p>ESTATE SALE! 1720 CHANDON WAY (Main St. to Vintage Pkwy to Concession to Chardon) Sat/Sun 8:10-11, 8am-1pm NO EARLY BIRDS</p> <p>GARAGE SALE Lots of baby items, clothing (infant - 10 yrs) kids items, books, weight bench, big kids go cart, misc. RBD Porters Ct Saturday (8/10), 7-1 p.m.</p> <p>MOVING SALE SAT AUG 10 9-3 2 HOUSES - DAY ONLY! Everything goes! Refrig., furn, lamps, tools & misc 5550 Solera Ave (bwn. Delta & Cypress)</p> <p>2290 WINDSOR LANE Oakley Rd. to Kelley Lane household, furn, baby furn, baby clothes, wom- ens clothes daybed, stroller, baby toys & more</p> <p>WHEN YOU GOTTA GO, GO! NO JOV CHECK THE CLASSIFIEDS</p>	<p>YARD SALE FRI/SAT & SUN 8:10, 8:11, 8-5 Furn, kit, bath & house- hold items books, clothing table, like new; 3 complete sets of dishes; pictures; electronics, books, rug, etc. 1433 Main St. (off Hwy 1433 to Live Oak Ave)</p> <p>Pacheco</p> <p>SATURDAY 8:10 8am-2pm 118 DECAUR DRIVE (Between Center & 2nd) Lots of clean kids toys, books, games, stuffed ani- mals, Walt Disney videos, sports equip, szz, clothing, household items, computer parts, furn & much more</p> <p>Pinole</p> <p>1727 EL TORO WAY off Canyon Drive SATURDAY 8:10-3pm NO EARLY BIRDS 20 years accumulation, misc something for everyone Babies thru Grandpa's</p> <p>ESTATE SALE SATURDAY 8:10-3pm 2408 STOKES AVENUE Off Dodge Ave Antiques, depression glass, carnival glass, decays, household items and much more!</p> <p>MULTI-FAMILY SALE SATURDAY 8:10 8AM-2PM 2407 CHRISTIAN COURT (Fara/Ponderosa Trail) Furn, sports, goods, clothing, CD's, video games portable AC, video games</p> <p>PITD BLOCK SALE p17 Sat 8:10 8am-3pm 2405-3075 8th Ave Collectibles and treasures for all, trailer, computer stuff, 85 hp job motor much more</p> <p>Block Sale SAT 8:10 7am to 7 1459 Brett Ct (Take Applian Way, Cross San Pablo Ave. to Pinon Right on Brett Ct) Household clothes, tools, collectibles, basketball stand wheel, and jewelry</p> <p>SATURDAY AUG 10th 8-3 Quality furn, org szz pillow, kng szz floatation bed, Star Wars, books, videos, CD's, electronics, games, collec- tibles, baby items, toys hand items & much more</p> <p>2405 Dodge Ave (510) 758-3327</p> <p>ESTATE SALE 1522 MANN DR. 9 TO 3PM BABY ITEMS, CLOTHES, & LOTS MORE</p> <p>Pittsburg</p> <p>YARD SALE 1522 MANN DR. 9 TO 3PM BABY ITEMS, CLOTHES, & LOTS MORE</p> <p>ESTATE SALE Vintage clothing, collect- ibles, antiques, weavers loom & supplies, sewing & crafters delight Sat/Sun 8:10 & 8:11 10-4 12 Meadowbrook Ave</p> <p>3 FAMILY YARD SALE Sat/Sun 8:10 & 8:11, 8-5 Appliances, furniture, toys, books, games, video, stereo equipment, tools, fish- ing gear & much more 640 Central Ave (Central & Elm St.)</p>	<p>MOVING/ESTATE SALE Sat/Sun 8:10 & 8:11, 8-5 Furn, kit, bath & house- hold items books, clothing table, like new; 3 complete sets of dishes; pictures; electronics, books, rug, etc. 1433 Main St. (off Hwy 1433 to Live Oak Ave)</p> <p>MOVING SALE!! 275 AVALON CIR. SATURDAY 8:10 1PM-5PM Appliances, furn, cookware, tools, lawn equip & more!</p> <p>MOVING SALE SUNDAY 7-5pm 1340 STEINBECK DR Railroad to Power to Brick- yard - Follow signs! Furn, clothes, kit, baby stuff, tools, art app! Everything must go!</p> <p>YARD SALE SAT ONLY! 8:10, 8-12pm Boys & girls clothes, kit, toy fan, throw rugs, toys, & 10 gal fish tank w/kit, and other various items! 208 Cannery Ct. (Parkside to Cannery Ave)</p> <p>Pleasant Hill</p> <p>Block Sale SAT 8:10-3pm Motorcycle, furn, entertain- ment center Clothes, toys, tools, com- puter, antique wood stove, remod items & bikes 614 Maureen Ln</p> <p>272 HAZEL DRIVE SATURDAY 8:10-7pm Tools, furniture, sports, and antiques</p> <p>FRI & SAT 8am-3pm 2601 BOIES DRIVE (OFF TAYLOR/APOLLO) Air cond, Ben's books gins bike, crib, toys, cloth- ing, beveled mirror, dishes furn, hosp bags, pictures, housewares, 92 Mazda van</p> <p>GARAGE SALE SAT 8:10 ONLY 1867 Helen Rd. 289 JENN FERN WAY Sat 8:10 & Sun 8:11, 8-2 Furn, Keyboard, Bikes, HP Printer, Software, Sports equip, Videos, Music, Art, toys, Xmas Tools, & VUC-MORE</p> <p>CASH - NO EARLY BIRDS</p> <p>KIDS QUALITY STUFF 1754 Sat 8:11, 9am-3pm CD's, 175, Lego, cabin- et, \$150, kitchen, sand- box, and more, more, 925-825-2939</p> <p>LARGE ESTATE SALE Sat/Sun 8:10 & 8:11, 7-7 VALJOIR toolshed, art Antiques, elect, books, camp gear, bikes, men's clothes, more (Early Birds less, \$5 ea, 2163 Oak Lane Cross at, Bristol off Norse)</p> <p>MOVING SALE: SUN 8:11, 8am-3pm. 536 Viking Dr. Everything Goes!! Best Offer</p>	<p>MULTI Family Moving Sale Furniture, lots of great stuff! SAT 8:10 8AM-2PM 10 Corten Ct. Pleasant Hill. Living room furniture, lamp, books, toys, clothes, bikes, dishes Corden Rd & Grayson</p> <p>SATURDAY (8/10) 8 AM TO 4 PM 1985 JEANETTE DR. 3 Microwave, popcorn venting machine, 2 14 nms, & other misc items</p> <p>YARD SALE Sat 8:10, Sun 8:11 8-3pm Furn, Ladies plus, kze clothing misc hand items & more! 81 Barbara Rd (Cor- ner of Valley Cresta Ave & off Oak Park Blvd)</p> <p>Pleasanton</p> <p>COURT GARAGE SALE SAT AUG 10th 8-12 Infant & toddler clothes & stuffed animals, clothing skis, lady's clothes, books various hand items 3444 Rocca Ct</p> <p>4875 DOLORES DR. Items for college, house- wares, books, toys, ap- pliances & more</p> <p>SATURDAY (8/10) 9 AM TO 5 PM Estate/Garage Sale! 3938 GRAND CANYON CT Furn, collectibles, art sup- plies, women's clothes hand items, kit, supplies, yard equip, books, much more! Everything Goes!</p> <p>GREAT YARD SALE 8945 Corte Verde Sat/Sun 8:10 & 8:11, 9-2 Furniture, household items computer accessories, art work, books, CD's, luggage & much more</p> <p>MULTI-FAMILY SALE SAT 8:10 & SUN 8:11 8 AM TO 3 PM 2187 Goldcrest Circle (off Highway) Miscellaneous furniture household items & clothes</p> <p>MULTI-FAMILY SALE 4112 Stanley Blvd Sat Aug 9, 8-12 Sat Aug 10 7:30-1pm Tools fishing, sporting equip, 3 HP printers, houseware books, toys, & collectibles</p> <p>MULTI-FAMILY SALE 4051 Churchill Drive (Beecham Ct at Churchill Dr) Sat 8:10, 8am-1pm Everything from A-Z Absolutely No Early Birds!</p> <p>NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE Sat 8:10 ONLY 8-2pm Lamps, frames, art work, misc. housewares, new microwave, exercise equip clothes, bikes & toys & much more!</p> <p>SATURDAY 8:10 8am-3pm 3190 PASO GRAYADA (N. Valley Ave.) Lots of kids' clothes household items, books toys & more</p>	<p>SAT 8:10, 8-4pm 502 Tannet Ct (Valley to Brunel to Tawny to Norton to Tannet Ct) Furn, hand items, 2 per- son portable hotup, fres- sures and more</p> <p>SAT 8:10 & SUN 8:11 8am to 4pm 2501 Glen Iele Ave. Furniture from all rooms 1930's hutch and much more! 2 items -OTS TO SEU!!</p> <p>SATURDAY 8:10 9AM-4PM 6887 SIESTA COURT (Off Hwy 10 and Beecham Ct) Buffet table, gourmet cookware, holiday dish- ware, Commemorative cook- books, king bedcong. Get- ting ready to remodel</p> <p>SATURDAY 8:10 8am-4pm 2571 SKYLARK WAY (Mohr & Woodchuck) Tools, furniture, freezer, couch, golf stuff, misc household items, lamps, wall unit, tables chairs desks & more</p> <p>SATURDAY (8/10) 8 AM TO 2 P.M. 2887 Calle Reynoso off of Valley Ave. & Hansen Collectibles, toys, toddler clothes, & much more</p> <p>Richmond</p> <p>BIG MOVING SALE! 645 35th St. Richmond Fri, 8:11-3, Sat 8:10, 9-2 Display case, salon dryer vintage items & clothes books, CD's, LP's, rugs, photo, trunks, New items on 8/10, (510) 232-0732.</p> <p>ESTATE SALE FRI/SAT/SUN 8:11-11 9-5pm 653 35th St Refrig, applis, misc</p> <p>ESTATE SALE SUNDAY (8/11) 10 AM TO 4 P.M. 675 36TH ST. (510) 236-2675</p> <p>ESTATE SALE 4550 Whittell Way Sat & Sun 9-3 1950's sofa, china cabinet, train collectibles, lots of books, records, prints, glassware, collectibles, pawprints, lig safe, R.R. Mar- yann cart, switch signal & lots more R.H. Anderson</p> <p>2 FAMILY GARAGE SALE Sat 8:10 8am-5pm 288 Kales Ln Sat/Sun 8:10-11, 9-2pm Washer/Dryer, refrig, dresser, leather chr, and lot of kitchen items</p> <p>MOVING MUST DOWNSIZE 5814 Huntington Ave Sat/Sun 8:10-11, 9-4pm Glider w/ ottoman, dbl ov- en, telescope, free stand- ing mirror, baby stuff & ev- erything in between</p> <p>SATURDAY/SUN 8:10-11 8-5pm 760 Wilson Ave (Solano & Garvin) Lots of Stuff Clothing, Household, & etc</p>	<p>SIMI ANNUAL SALE 685 32nd Street SATURDAY ONLY 9-3pm Exercise equipment & household items</p> <p>YARD SALE Friday 8:10-9:20pm Glen H Drive (off West- ber BQ) tr, hutch, crystal sternware, 27 Kewpie doll 1600 15 pps & more 3618 Andrade Ave 1/2 block off San Pablo Ave</p> <p>Rodeo</p> <p>SIDEWALK SALE SAT AUGUST 10, 10-5 330 1st St Lenses, dolls, videos, fish- ing poles, glassware, fur- ture, jewelry, quilts, bee- signs and much more</p> <p>San Pablo</p> <p>ALANO CLUB Fri & Sat 8:10-10, 9-3pm, 550 on Sat</p> <p>2426 Church Ln. Parking available in back</p> <p>GARAGE SALE Sat 8:10 8 to 3pm Lots of misc stuff 1415 Stanton ave</p> <p>MOVING SALE Aug 9 thru 11th, 9-3pm 1707 Mner Ave</p> <p>MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE Sat/Sun 8:10-9:30 2pm Comelius dr 2 gener- ation boat motor, tools, garden tools, stock, QM fries, whimsy, baby items, furn, seasonal & house- hold items & much more</p> <p>Sat 8:10, 8-4pm Clothes, computer items, hand items, and misc. 1 2329 Cypress Ave (off Del Monte)</p> <p>SATURDAY 8/10, 9-4:30pm 2022 Southwood Drive Girls stuff and misc.</p> <p>San Ramon</p> <p>GARAGE/SALESMAN SAMPLE SALE Sat 8:10 8am-5pm 288 Kales Ln Brand new designer bed- ding, sheets, office school supplies, electronics, clothes, ceramics, toys, designer clothing</p> <p>GARDEN STATUARY Garage Sale SAT. 8AM - 2PM 207 Ramon Place fountains stepping stones benches statues antiques, kitchenware, furn, Pachino, collectibles Too Much To List 1 block north of Pine Valley/Broadmoor</p>	<p>HUGE GARAGE SALE 3252 Munras Paces Saturday 8:10 9-4-30 Lots of Baby items stroller car, high chair, high chair books, books videos CDs other items</p> <p>MOVING SALE Fri 8:10 Sat 8:10 Sun 8:11 1-5 Lyn rm set on fr set! mstr bdrm set, sofa, kit 21 & 4 chrs, patio set, car pets, 34 Ford Tempo, etc 15 Black Oak Ct off Bolinger Canyon Rd</p> <p>SAT & SUN 8am-9 543 AMHERST CT Off North-and Lg furn, grt cond, mod living rm, sofa, coffee b and the computer w unit, dresser, refr, appls misc 925-828-4281 to see</p> <p>SAT & SUN 8:10-8:11 9am to 2pm 7395 Sedgefield Ave Furniture, exercise equip women's extra large size clothes, pictures, books & crafts, artificial flowers and household items</p> <p>SATURDAY 8:10 8-4pm 9717 Thunderbird Drive household items, furn, sawdust, man-sawdust clothes, toys, & more</p> <p>Walnut Creek</p> <p>A NEIGHBORHOOD SALE The Village at Walnut Creek Sat 8:10 8am to 2pm 1801-1949 Stratton Circle (off Bancroft between Gracioso & Treat) Clothes, collectibles computer, electronics toys, books, kitchenware & much more</p> <p>SAT 8-3 131 ARLENUE LN Entertainment unit, dls airrucker, coffee, 10 men's & kids, scooters mini-racing, video games RC cars, laptop, sandbox books, toys, clothing, misc</p> <p>BIG YARD SALE Sat/Sun 8:10 & 8:11, 9-4 50 Overlook Ct (off Parkside) Mahogany bdrm & dining room sets - much more furniture, china sets, tools air compressor, Masco's computer, paintings, many books, motivational tapes jewelry, cameras, TVs too much to list (No Early Birds) (925) 236-8700</p> <p>ESTATE SALE SATURDAY 8:11 9AM-4:30PM 2167 NORMAN ROAD (Mtn View extension to Norms) Hand tools, paint- ings, beds, couch, chrs bks, washer/dryer, refrig collectibles 925-934-2788</p> <p>GAUNT GARAGE SALE 872 Center St 1 block from Olympic Blvd Sat 8:10, 8 am to 2 pm Sun, (8/11), 9 am to 2 pm Sofa, 1980's car, 1980's saw, 1980's trunk, LP's, mir- rors, artwork, oak, toilet rags, TV, lots more 30 yrs accumulation</p> <p>MULTI-FAMILY SALE 2655 Olympic Blvd (off 680) Furniture, household, toys Friday (8/9) & Sat (8/10) 7 A.M. TO 4 P.M.</p>	<p>MOVING SALE 777 Castle Rock Rd Sat 8:10 8-4pm Futon, masks, inc, double bed, & matching chr & ot- tomans, 1980's stereo cab. Tons of knick-knacks</p> <p>MOVING SALE Fri, Sat, Sun 8AM-4PM 8021 BAP-AEL CT (Bancroft Village) Armoire, children's items mens kitchenware glass, ware clothes household & more</p> <p>MOVING SALE 8:10 8:10-9:30 1411 Boulevard Wy Furn, art, kitchen items & misc. Cash Only</p> <p>MULTI-FAMILY SALE SAT 8:10 8am-4pm 1411 Boulevard Wy Furn, art, kitchen items & misc. Cash Only</p> <p>SAT 8:10 9am to 1pm 517 Creekside Ct Oak Grove to Filbert to Creekside</p> <p>SAT 8:10 9-4 1000 2246 N. Yngbuck Collectibles & track & hobby</p> <p>SAT 8:10 9AM-3PM 75 Pleasant Valley Drive Walnut Creek off of Oak Park No early birds, please</p> <p>GREAT STUFF Household & decorative items dren's items and more No early birds, please</p> <p>SATURDAY (8/10) 8 AM TO 7 1884 Apple Ct. End of Via Appa in Bancroft Village No early birds, please No parking n court</p> <p>SO MUCH STUFF We Could Be a Store! Fri & Sat 8:10 8:30-3PM 820 Stoneraven Dr Furn, TV, toys, clothing houseware, crafts, boxes & much more</p> <p>This is a good one! Antiques, collectibles vintage items, jewelry, art furniture, doll & child items books, & shoes, rugs, etc. & more 123 Javeline Oakland Blvd. follow signs Absolutely no early birds</p> <p>YOUR MOST CONVENIENT SHOPPING CENTER IS CLASSIFIEDS</p>

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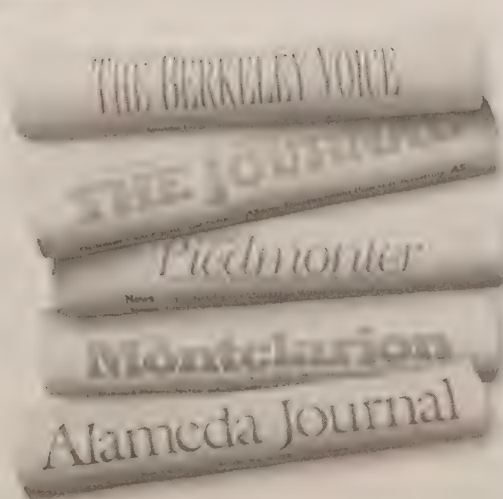
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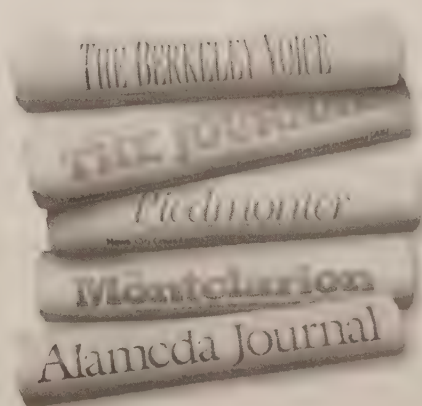
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The appeal of fresh-fruit pie satisfies any sweet tooth

NAPS

To make dessert a sweet treat, while keeping an eye on your family's health, try incorporating fresh fruit into your favorite recipes.

Bakers at the King Arthur Flour Company in Norwich, Vt., have created a delicious, easy recipe for any type of fruit. It doesn't matter whether fruit is frozen or fresh when baking pie. Just pick your favorites and give it a try.

Kate Hookway, a King Arthur Flour baking instructor, suggests serving the following recipe for Bumble Berry Pie hot from the oven with homemade ice cream or room temperature with fresh whipped cream.

BUMBLE BERRY PIE

Crust:
3 cups King Arthur Unbleached

All-Purpose Flour

1 tablespoon confectioners' sugar
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup butter
1/2 cup vegetable shortening
5 tablespoons ice water
Filling:
1/3 cup King Arthur Flour Unbleached All-Purpose Flour
2 tablespoons butter
1 cup granulated sugar
1 cup raspberries
1 cup blueberries
1 cup strawberries, sliced
1 cup rhubarb, sliced
1 cup chopped apple
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
OR 1/4 tsp. lemon oil

Crust: Whisk together flour, sugar and salt, then use a pastry blender to cut in the butter and shortening. Mix till the mixture is crumbly. Driz-

zle just enough water over the mixture to make it cohesive, tossing till it begins to come together. (You may use a food processor, if you like.) Gather it into a ball, and divide it in half. Flatten one half into a disk, and the other into a 3-inch diameter log (about 2 inches long). Wrap each in plastic wrap, refrigerate the disk for 30 minutes, and freeze the log.

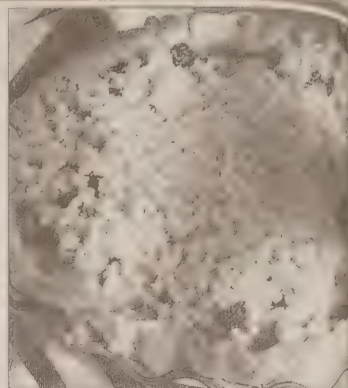
Filling: Mix together flour, butter and sugar; toss this mixture with all of the fruit and lemon juice or lemon oil.

Assembly: Roll the flattened disk of pie crust into a 12-inch circle, and lay it gently into a 9-inch pie plate. Spoon in the filling. Remove the pastry log from the freezer, and use the medium-to-large holes of a grater to shred it atop the pie filling. Sprinkle with coarse sugar, if desired.

Baking: Bake the pie in a preheated 450F. oven for 15 minutes. Reduce the oven heat to 375F, and bake for an additional 45 to 50 minutes. The pastry should be light brown, and the filling bubbly. Remove the pie from the oven, and cool it for at least 1 hour before serving. (The pie will be too runny if sliced while still warm.) Yield: 1 pie, 8 servings.

Note: With this unusual top crust, it is important to handle the dough as little as possible, and only use enough water to make it hold together. If you question your ability to handle pie crust as gently as it needs to be handled, then play it safe here and roll out a "regular" top crust.

For information, other recipes or to order the flour, call 800-827-6836 or visit www.kingarthurflour.com.



IT DOESN'T MATTER whether fruit is frozen or fresh in this pie. This pie has an unusual top crust.

Yum

FROM PAGE 1

minutes to remove some of their salt and soften them a bit.

She shows me how to toast raw peanuts in a dry wok over medium-high heat until they start to brown.

Now we start to combine the ingredients.

She gives me a large mortar and pestle and I begin by pounding the garlic, chilies and beans to "bruise them." Then I add the shredded papaya and pound again. Next comes the shrimp and dressing ingredients. She shows me how to toss the ingredients using the pestle and a spoon.

When following the recipes given here, be forewarned. We offer a range of measures for peppers and if you use the high end, the recipe will be spiced for Thai tastes. "I've been eating chilies since I was 5 years old," Roong says, as is true of most people in Thailand. So they are mild to the heat.

You might begin by using the minimum amount of peppers suggested and then add more to taste. The Thai peppers are tiny red and green ones that look almost like small Christmas light bulbs. The red ones are milder than the green.

When you come across a piece of them in the salad, we suggest leaving the pepper on the plate. Bite into one and your mouth will be numb for some time. You can substitute jalapenos that are not as spicy.

Roong suggests garnishing the papaya salad with green beans, cucumbers, green cabbage, sweet basil and onions. Or serve it with roast chicken or sticky rice.

The Minced Chicken Salad is perhaps the easiest to make. It includes ground roasted sticky rice or kao kua, which is a common ingredient used in Northeast Thailand, according to Nancie McDermott, writing in Real Thai (Chronicle, 1992). You toast the rice in a skillet and then grind it to a fine powder with a mortar and pestle. Once again, that mini-food processor

looks pretty appealing to the American home cook. The rice powder adds a nutty flavor and crunchiness to this dish that is intriguing.

This salad also contains what Roong calls ginza. In the States I've found it labeled galangal. It's very similar to ginger root.

If you want to try these salads in your home kitchen, you may have to search for some of the ingredients.

Thai salads — recipes

If you cook this just before serving, it has warm and cool elements to it that add to the pleasant balance of sensations.

MINCED CHICKEN SALAD LAAP GAI

1/2 cup water
1 1/2 cups minced chicken breast meat (10 ounces)
2 shallots, thinly sliced
2 slices galangal (x) or ginger root, finely chopped
3 tablespoons fish sauce
2 1/2 tablespoons fresh lime juice
1 tablespoon ground chili pepper powder (xx), or to taste
1 tablespoon 1-inch pieces cilantro

2 tablespoons roasted and ground sticky rice (xxx)
1 tablespoon mint leaves, plus more for garnish

Place water in a wok or skillet over high heat. When it bubbles, add chicken and cook, breaking it into bits. Cook until chicken is cooked through. Drain chicken and place in a nonreactive bowl. Add remaining ingredients and toss to combine. Garnish with mint leaves. Makes 3 cups.

(x) This is known as Thai ginger. It comes fresh, frozen or dried. If dried, you must soak it in cold water until soft before chopping.

(xx) We used a product labeled ichimi togarashi. You could substitute ground cayenne; do not use the

powder that's a common ingredient in chili con carne.

(xxx) To toast rice: Place rice on a baking sheet in a dry skillet over medium heat and let cook about 10 minutes or until brown. Let cool and then process in a food processor fitted with the metal blade until finely ground.

Recipe adapted from one from the Chiang Mai Thai Cookery School. You can serve this garnished with steamed shrimp or rehydrated dried shrimp.

GLASS NOODLE SALAD

3 1/2 ounces very thin dried glass or cellophane (mung bean) noodles
1/4 cup water, plus water for cooking noodles and as needed
1/2 cup fine-minced pork
5 cloves garlic, chopped
3 shallots, sliced
2 to 20 small red chilies, thinly sliced or to taste
1/2 cup chopped Chinese or regular celery

3 tablespoons fish sauce
2 tablespoons fresh lime juice
1 teaspoon palm sugar, brown sugar or honey
1 plum tomato cut in half and sliced the long way
2 tablespoons unsalted roasted peanuts (xx)
Let shrimp soak in water to cover 10 minutes to remove some of their salt. Meanwhile, put garlic, chilies and beans in a large mortar and pound roughly with a pestle. Add papaya and pound again to bruise. Then add shrimp, fish sauce, lime juice and sugar and toss with pestle and a spoon until sugar dissolves. Add tomatoes and pound just to combine. Then add peanuts and toss to mix. Makes about 3 cups.

Serve with sticky rice.

(x) If you can't find green papaya, use cucumber or carrots. But don't

cilantro leaves. Makes 3 1/2 cups. **Recipe adapted from one from the Chiang Mai Thai Cookery School.**

GREEN PAPAYA SALAD SOM TAM

2 tablespoons dried shrimp
Water
3 cloves garlic
2 to 10 small green chilies
2 long beans, cut into 1-inch pieces or 1/4 cup (1-inch pieces) traditional green beans
3 cups shredded green papaya (x)

2 tablespoons fish sauce
2 tablespoons fresh lime juice
1 teaspoon palm sugar, brown sugar or honey
1 plum tomato cut in half and sliced the long way
2 tablespoons unsalted roasted peanuts (xx)
Let shrimp soak in water to cover 10 minutes to remove some of their salt. Meanwhile, put garlic, chilies and beans in a large mortar and pound roughly with a pestle. Add papaya and pound again to bruise. Then add shrimp, fish sauce, lime juice and sugar and toss with pestle and a spoon until sugar dissolves. Add tomatoes and pound just to combine. Then add peanuts and toss to mix. Makes about 3 cups.

Serve with sticky rice.

(x) If you can't find green papaya, use cucumber or carrots. But don't

expect the same results. You can shred the papaya by peeling it and then using a cleaver to make many parallel cuts on its side. Then shave off the strips. Or you can use a grater.

(xx) You can roast your own peanuts by placing raw ones in a dry wok or skillet over medium heat and stirring to toast all sides of the nuts. **Recipe adapted from one from the Chiang Mai Thai Cookery School.**

CABBAGE SALAD

2 tablespoons fish sauce
Grated zest of 1 lime
2 tablespoons fresh lime juice
1/2 cup coconut milk
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
1 to 4 red chilies or to taste, seeded and cut into fine strips
6 garlic cloves, finely sliced
6 shallots, finely sliced
Salt, to taste
Water

1 small head green cabbage, shredded

2 tablespoons chopped roasted peanuts, for garnish
Combine fish sauce, lime zest and juice and coconut milk in a non-reactive container; set aside.

In a wok or skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Add chilies, garlic and shallots. Stir-fry until shallots are brown and crisp. Remove from heat and set aside.

Meanwhile, bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Add cabbage

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Scones: A terrific treat that's tempting with tea

NAPS!
The sweet biscuit Americans know as a scone probably bears little resemblance to the original, which is a delicious, round, or embossed, with tea or lemon.

Scones can be flavored with lemon or orange, cherries, apricots and apples, cinnamon, coffee, coconut, ginger, from nuts and maple and even savory herbs and vegetables.

To make tea with your scone, take a scone to completion, bake it to a golden brown. For example, the director of product development at King Arthur Flour, adding dried peaches to a scone as a compliment to Peach Tea.

The following is a basic scone with variations of different fruits and spices. If you use ingredients, such as King Arthur Flour's All-Purpose and follow directions carefully, scrumptious scones will be a snap.

SCUMPTIOUS SCONES
Ingredients: King Arthur Unbleached All-Purpose Flour, 1 cup sugar, 1/2 cup buttermilk powder, 1/2 teaspoon salt, 1/2 cup raisins, 1/2 cup currants, 1/2 cup apricots, 1/2 cup dried fruit.

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. F oven for 7 minutes, then turn the oven off and, without opening the door, let the scones remain in the oven for an additional 8 to 10 minutes, or until they're golden brown.

Remove from the oven, and cool on a wire rack.

Serve the scones immediately or within a few hours, for best flavor.

Makes 16 scones.

determines the texture of the scones.

Use a combination of butter and shortening: butter for its flavor, shortening for its superior ability to create the "flaky" effect.

Begin with cold fat, as cold fat retains its integrity in the dough better than warm.

Use a pastry blender or fork to work the fat into the flour.

Next, add the liquid ingredients to the flour/fat mixture.

Too much mixing or kneading at this point will result in tough, heavy scones.

Gently fold everything together until the mixture is mostly moistened; a bit of the flour may remain dry.

Turn the dough out onto a lightly floured surface, and fold and gather it together until it's cohesive.

Divide the dough in half, and place both halves on a lightly greased or parchment-lined baking sheet.

Pat each half into a 7-inch circle approximately 1/2-inch thick, then cut each circle into 8 wedges. Separate the wedges slightly.

Or you may pat the entire piece of dough into a rectangle and cut it into squares or 11/2- to 2-inch rounds, using a biscuit cutter.

Brush the scones with the beaten egg, sprinkle with coarse sugar or cinnamon sugar, if desired.

Bake in a preheated 450 degrees F oven for 7 minutes, then turn the oven off and, without opening the door, let the scones remain in the oven for an additional 8 to 10 minutes, or until they're golden brown.

Remove from the oven, and cool on a wire rack.

Serve the scones immediately or within a few hours, for best flavor.

Makes 16 scones.

Variations

• **Cranberry-Orange Scones:** Use cranberries as the added fruit,

add 2 tablespoons grated orange zest or 1/2 teaspoon orange oil to the dough, and use orange juice for the liquid.

• **Lemon-Poppy Seed Scones:** Add 3 tablespoons poppy seeds and 1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon lemon oil, or 2 tablespoons grated lemon zest, to the dough.

• **Cherry-Almond Scones:** Substitute 2 tablespoons almond extract (or 1/4 tsp. bitter almond oil) for the vanilla, and add 1/2 cup dried sweet or sour cherries to the dough.

• **Ginger-Chocolate Chip Scones:** Add 1/4 cup finely diced crystallized ginger, and 1 teaspoon

ground ginger or 1 teaspoon fresh crushed ginger to the dough, along with 1/2 cup chocolate chips.

• **Cinnamon-Pecan Scones:** Add 3/4 cup chopped, toasted pecans to the dough, and substitute 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon for the vanilla.

For more information on King Arthur Flour (based in Norwich, Vt.), more great recipes, or to order the flour, call 800-827-6836.

Or visit the Web site at www.kingarthurflour.com and shop from the Baker's Catalogue or check out online classes or just browse around.



THE SWEET BISCUIT Americans know as a scone probably bears little resemblance to the original, but this popular treat is delicious — plain or embellished, with tea or on its own.

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Pair of California favorites blend well

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Grapes mix well with other foods, offering cooks many options when preparing them beyond just being a snack food. This recipe combines grapes with avocados, another California favorite, for a salsa that can work either as a side for dipping or a garnish over chicken or fish.

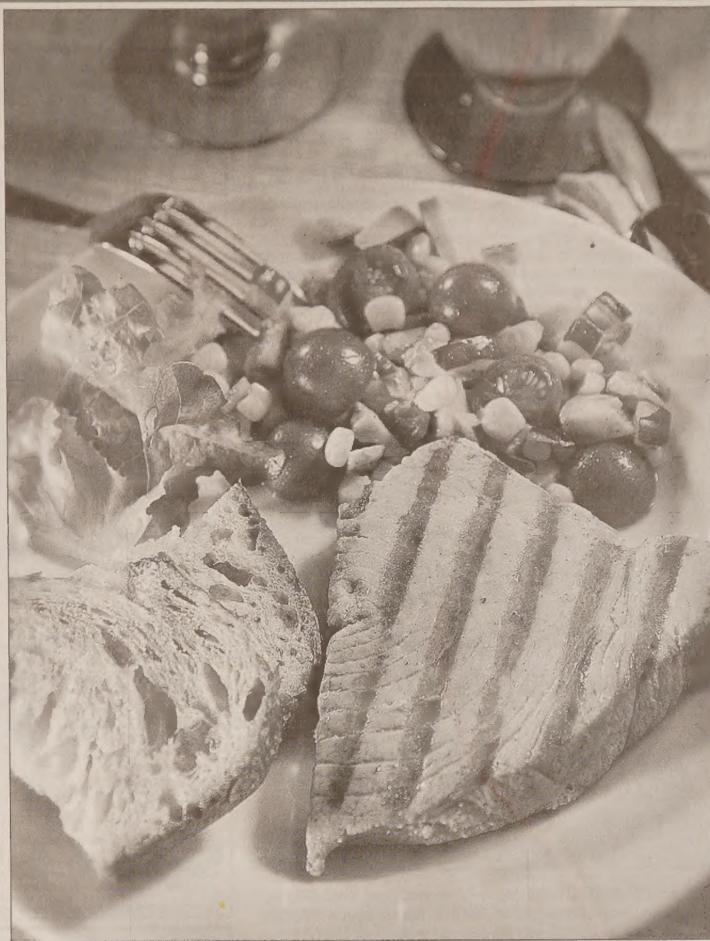
GRAPE AND AVOCADO SALSA

1½ cups coarsely chopped seedless grapes
1 medium avocado, diced ¼-inch.
¼ cup chopped sweet red peppers
2 tablespoons each diced sweet onion and fresh Anaheim peppers
2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh cilantro
1 tablespoon fresh lime or lemon juice
½ teaspoon garlic salt
Dash of ground black pepper

Combine all ingredients and mix thoroughly. Cover tightly and refrigerate at least 30 minutes to allow flavors to blend.

Serve with grilled fish or chicken. May be served with tortilla chips or toasted bagels. Makes about 2 cups.

Recipe from the California Table Grape Commission.



BOB FILA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Dinner tonight: Tuna steaks with tomato, corn and avocado salad

BY KRISTIN EDDY
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Some great grilling choices come from the sea, and bright red tuna steaks are a nice example.

Brush them with a light glaze of lime juice and brown sugar for flavor, then serve the tuna with a colorful summer salad.

If corn isn't at its peak, feel free to substitute frozen kernels.

Menu:

Tuna steaks with tomato, corn and avocado salad
Sliced country bread
Strawberry milkshakes
Riesling

Time-saving tips:

Purchase a prepared glaze for the tuna.

TUNA STEAKS WITH TOMATO, CORN AND AVOCADO SALAD

¼ cup vegetable oil
2 tablespoons fresh lime juice
1 tablespoon brown sugar
½ teaspoon each: salt, freshly ground pepper
4 tuna steaks

2 tablespoons red wine vinegar

¼ red onion, minced

1 pint cherry tomatoes

1 cup cooked corn

2 avocados, peeled and diced

Prepare a grill over medium heat.

Combine 3 tablespoons oil, lime juice, brown sugar, salt and pepper in a small bowl.

Brush over both sides of the tuna; set aside.

Whisk together 2 tablespoons of oil, vinegar and remaining salt in a medium bowl.

Stir in tomatoes, onion and corn.

Gently stir in avocado.

Set aside.

Place tuna on grill over medium heat.

broiler; cook as directed for 4 to 6 minutes per side for medium-rare.

Serve tuna with tomato, corn and avocado salad.

Preparation time: 15 minutes

Cooking time: 4 minutes

Makes 4 servings

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A BRUSHING of lime juice and brown sugar gets tuna steaks ready for the grill. Corn salad on the side keeps up the summer theme.

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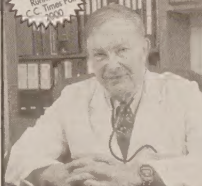
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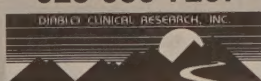
KNEE PAIN?

If you are suffering with knee pain associated with osteoarthritis of the knee, Diablo Clinical Research and Dr. Richard Weinstein invite you to participate in a 6-week study of an investigational medication for pain.

Men and women age 40-75 may qualify for this study. Participation will include at no cost all study related medications, x-rays, physical examinations, electrocardiograms and diagnostic blood and urine testing.

For more information or to see if you may qualify please call:

Greg Plummer at
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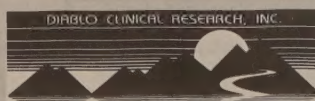
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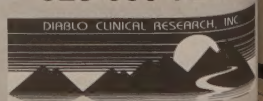
ARTHRITIS PAIN?

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No time to cook? These quick, tasty dishes make dinner hassle-free

NAPSI
Your hectic schedule makes it difficult to find the time to plan and prepare quality family meals, you're not alone. Eighty-two percent of Americans report their biggest challenge to be either deciding what to make for dinner or the time to make it, according to a recent survey conducted by Digital Marketing Services.

Fortunately, companies such as IFF Foods, Inc., offer Individually Fresh Frozen (IFF) chicken products to help you quickly prepare nutritious meals the whole family can enjoy. Because IFF products can go right from the freezer into your recipes without cooking, you can wait to start dinner until everyone gets home for the evening, instead of hours or days ahead.

IFF chicken is enhanced naturally with chicken broth to increase moisture and tenderness. That's why it won't dry out or lose flavor when cooking. Additionally, each IFF chicken is ice glazed to ensure freshness before freezing for longer storage time in the freezer. Available in boneless, skinless breasts and tenders, half-breasts, drumsticks, and wings, IFF products are

located in your grocer's freezer. Try this tantalizing recipe and watch as your family makes time to enjoy it:

BROCCOLI, CHICKEN AND RICE CASSEROLE

4 Tyson Individually Fresh Frozen Boneless, Skinless Chicken Breasts

- 1 box broccoli rice au gratin
- 2 cups boiling water
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 2 cups frozen broccoli
- 1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese

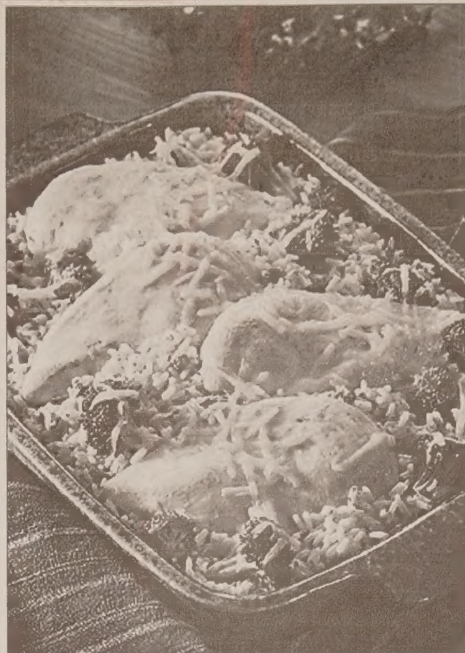
Cook: Preheat oven to 425-degrees F. In 13 x 9-inch baking pan, combine rice and contents of seasoning packet. Add boiling water; mix well.

Clean: Wash hands. Add chicken, sprinkle with garlic powder, cover and bake 30 minutes. Add broccoli and cheese, continue to bake, covered, 8 to 10 minutes or until internal juices of chicken run clear. (Or insert instant-read meat thermometer in thickest part of chicken. Temperature should read 170°F.)

Serve: Serve hot out of the oven with yeast rolls, if desired.

Chill: Refrigerate leftovers immediately.

Prep Time: none; **cook Time:** 40 minutes; **makes** 4 servings.



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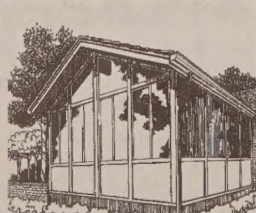
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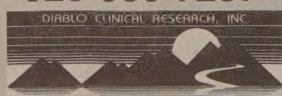
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Where there's smoke ... there's some good cookin'

BY CHARLES PERRY
LOS ANGELES TIMES

I wander around these days enveloped in the distinct odor of burning wood. People have been remarking on it, and I apologize to any who are offended. Smoke just stays with you, and I've been obsessed with smoking food lately.

I wasn't always this way. When I was a kid, I used to make my own custom hamburger sauce out of every condiment in the cupboard, and one day I ill-advisedly put a whole tablespoon of liquid smoke into the mix. When I tasted it, I gagged violently. It was years before I could stand the taste of smoke again.

My recovery was gradual. After college, I cooked on cheap little hibachis and supermarket barbecues. Then I moved up to a Weber kettle, and once in a while I'd throw in some moistened wood chips or trimmings from my apricot tree for variety.

Those were the days when I still thought barbecuing was just a pleasant way to cook out of doors. But I'd had a faint glimpse of the possibilities of smoking instead of merely grilling — it was like commanding a mighty Wurlitzer of flavor creation, as compared to plunking on a piano.

I bought a 50-gallon oil drum barbecue and installed a thermometer on it for more accurate cooking. The maker told me how I could smoke in it by keeping the temperature around 250 degrees and putting the meat at the other end of the drum from the coals, so I got a metal wood chip holder and smoked a few chickens, even the occasional brisket.

Then I got a gas grill for the convenience, thinking it was the next step up, but I don't use it much. Looking back, I can see the reason: like most gas grills, mine is almost impossible to keep cool enough for smoking. Without realizing it, I had come to see smoking as an essential feature of barbecue, a rich spectrum of added flavor with a primeval appeal.

Two months ago, I came upon an electric smoker: the Smokeette II, made by Cookshack of Ponca City, Okla. I wrote out a check for \$425 plus shipping. A couple of weeks later it arrived on my

doorstep: a solid, chunky, 88-pound metal box that looks sort of like a bar refrigerator with an oven-type dial on top. At last, I could smoke a whole brisket without having to mother the coals all day.

I realize many barbecuers actually treasure the hours they spend tending their smokers. It's a meditative thing, like fishing. For others, it's guy time — a convenient excuse to socialize all afternoon with their buds, but without having to think they're just killing time like the gang at "Cheers."

Fine for them, but I'm neither that meditative nor that sociable. I just want a smoker that can run itself. One I can stoke with hardwood, switch on and leave.

Now that I have one, I've gone kind of smoke-crazy. I've smoked wonderfully moist chicken and brisket. I've smoked steak, which seemed an extravagant idea, somehow, but it was sure good. Ribs and pork shoulder? You bet. I've even smoked a prime rib.

I've smoked leg of lamb. I've smoked rack of goat (five hours at 225 degrees, and I strongly recommend trimming the exterior fat). I've smoked salmon. I've smoked bologna — you have to find chub bologna, rather than the sliced kind, but it comes out like a giant smoke hot dog.

I've smoked hard-boiled eggs, which had a good, surprisingly subtle smoke flavor, when you consider that they'd spent an hour in hickory smoke. It turns out there's a tradition of smoking eggs. I've also smoked olives, another traditional thing. They dried out a little, but the flavor was attractive.

I've smoked jalapenos, making my own "chipotle" peppers; they took a long time and I decided they were more trouble than they were worth. I've smoked sliced mushrooms, which came out smoky enough but also rather chewy. Fortunately, they softened up after a night in balsamic vinegar.

I've smoked eggplant, on the theory that because everybody likes the smoky note in the Middle Eastern eggplant dip "baba ghanouj," smokier would be better. It was. Experience quickly taught me the long Asian eggplant is better for smoking than slices of the usual American globe eggplant,

which tend to fall through the grill. I've smoked mild olive oil with mildly interesting results. Mustard, on the other hand, is an undeniable success.

I've even smoked fruits. Smoked apples are traditional in England, but I wasn't very impressed with my result (like eating a baked apple downwind of a brush fire). Pears came out a little better, because they were juicier. Pineapple was better still, so I tried bananas, which turned out to be really terrible.

I've read that the Chinese were fond of black smoked apricots during the Tang dynasty. After my banana experience, though, I'm not going there. (What did they smoke them on, anyway? Cypress, camphor wood, tea leaves?) And until I become an obsessive home brewer, I'll forget about making smoked malt, which is what the Germans use for "rauchbier."

Through all this, I have been picking up things experienced smokers have long known. For instance, that meat stops accepting any more smoke flavor when its internal temperature reaches 140 degrees or so. That's why you don't need to add more hardwood chips toward the end of cooking, and it also means that for maximum smoke flavor you should put meat in the smoker cold, straight from the refrigerator.

As a lot of barbecuers report, there seems to be a plateau in cooking larger cuts. When the meat reaches around 170 or 180 degrees, its internal temperature often sticks there for anything from 45 minutes to two hours. Food science writer Harold McGee suggests this might be because one of the major muscle proteins, actin, doesn't denature (soften) until that temperature, and it might be sucking up the thermal energy.

Somehow, nobody had ever told me that you should always remove the translucent membrane from the inner side of a rack of ribs before cooking it. That way the meat picks up more flavor from the spice rub and comes out smokier, and you also don't have to chew away at the membrane when it's done. Fortunately, it's pretty easy to remove — you insert a butter knife between the membrane and the meat and work your way up

and down the rack, lifting and pulling until it comes off.

On my electric smoker, I can set the temperature for 225 degrees, which makes for very moist and tender meat. But this doesn't always brown the surface as much as I like, and I often throw the meat (particularly chicken) onto one of my other barbecues for a few minutes afterward. So I'm not giving up on them, even in my current smoke mania.

Larousse Gastronomique says meat should be cured in brine before it's smoked. Of course, Larousse is thinking of smoking as a preservative method, and actually, it's kind of the other way around. Smoking is necessary for brine-cured meats because it keeps their fat from turning rancid.

But none of that concerns me. For this cowpoke, smoking is the complete reverse of a preservative. Nothing that tastes so good lasts very long around me.

The recipes

This is the basic idea of a sauce used on raw vegetables in a 14th-century Arabic vegetarian dish called "barida."

SMOKY WALNUT DIP

1 (8-ounce) jar Dijon mustard
2 cups walnut pieces
Scrape the mustard into a shallow bowl and place in a smoker at 225 degrees for 1 hour.

Puree the walnut pieces in a food processor, then add half the mustard and process until smooth. Add more mustard as desired for stronger taste or thinner texture.

Makes about 2 cups. Active work time: 5 minutes; total preparation time: 1 hour, 5 minutes.

Fans of the Middle Eastern dip "baba ghanouj" like the smoky flavor of its star ingredient: roasted eggplant. This is a really smoky eggplant salad. Note: Globe eggplant is awkward here — the slices take up a lot of space in a smoker and tend to fall through the grill as they soften.

SMOKED EGGPLANT SALAD

4 long Chinese eggplants or 6 Japanese eggplants
Salt
2 cloves garlic, crushed
1 cup plain yogurt
Peel the eggplants and slice in

half. Sprinkle with salt and let drain in a colander for 20 to 30 minutes. Wipe them off and arrange them on the smoker grill. Smoke at 225 degrees for 1 hour.

Remove the eggplant from the smoker, chop coarsely and pulse in a food processor with the garlic and yogurt until the mixture moves smoothly but is not yet pureed.

Makes 3 to 4 servings. Active work time: 10 minutes; total preparation time: 1 1/2 hours. Vegetarian.

Use this as a marinade for pork butt, rib-eye steak, prime rib or beef brisket. From "The Barbecue America Cookbook" by Rick Browne and Jack Bettridge (Lyons Press, \$19.95).

RED-EYED MEAT MARINADE

2 cups strong brewed coffee
2 large onions, cut into large pieces

1 cup soy sauce
1 cup dry white wine
1/2 cup orange juice
1/2 cup molasses
1 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon pepper
Place the coffee, onions, soy sauce, white wine, orange juice, molasses, salt and pepper in a blender and process, in batches if necessary.

Makes 8 cups. Active work and total preparation time: 5 minutes.

A lot of rubs contain sugar to counteract the bitter note in the smoke flavor. It's not necessary, though, and sugar can give meat a burnt flavor. Many rubs also use garlic powder or garlic salt, but fresh garlic has a better flavor.

HERB RUB

2 to 3 cloves garlic
1 teaspoon dried rosemary
1 1/2 teaspoons dried thyme
1 tablespoon cayenne pepper
1 tablespoon salt

Crush the garlic and rub it all over the meat but don't leave chunks of garlic on the flesh. Crush the rosemary and thyme and mix with the cayenne and salt. Powder the meat with it and let it rest for a couple of hours before barbecuing.

Makes about 1/4 cup. Active work and total preparation time: 5 minutes.

LOW-FAT Pineapple-Turkey Kabobs

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
This recipe for low-fat turkey kabobs is from *Low-Fat and Garden Make-Ahead* (Meredith, 2001, \$24.95).

PINEAPPLE-RUB TURKEY KABOBS

3/4 pound turkey breast loin steaks, cut 1/2 inch thick
1/3 cup unsweetened pineapple juice

3 tablespoons pineapple juice
1 tablespoon brown sugar
1 tablespoon lemon grass or 2 lemons, shredded
1 medium red onion, wedges
3 plums or 2 nectarines, cut into thick slices
2 cups fresh or frozen pineapple chunks

Hot cooked rice with pepper slivers (optional)
Cut turkey into 1/2-inch cubes. Place turkey in a shallow bag set in a shallow pan of water, combine the 1/3 cup pineapple juice, the 3 tablespoons pineapple juice, the lemon grass or lemon, and the onion. Seal bag in refrigerator at least 24 hours, turning bag occasionally.

Drain turkey, reserving marinade to boiling, but covered, for 1 minute. Heat. On four 12-inch skewers, thread turkey, pineapple, plums and pineapple skewers.

Grill turkey and fruit over medium coals until onion are tender, turkey pink and fruit is heated through once and brushing with the heated marinade. Last half of grilling, about 5 minutes for turkey to serve over hot cooked rice. Makes 4 servings.



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